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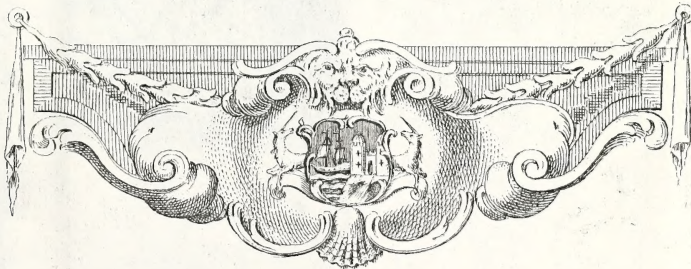


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ANTIQUITIES  
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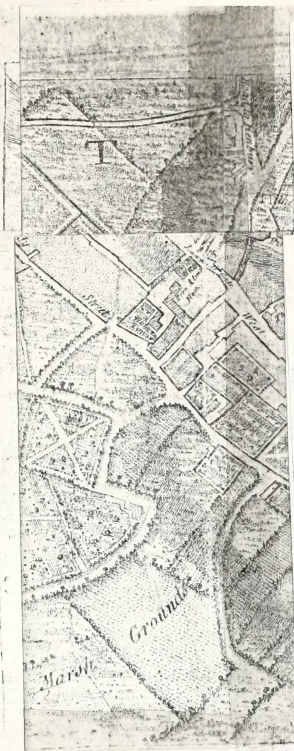
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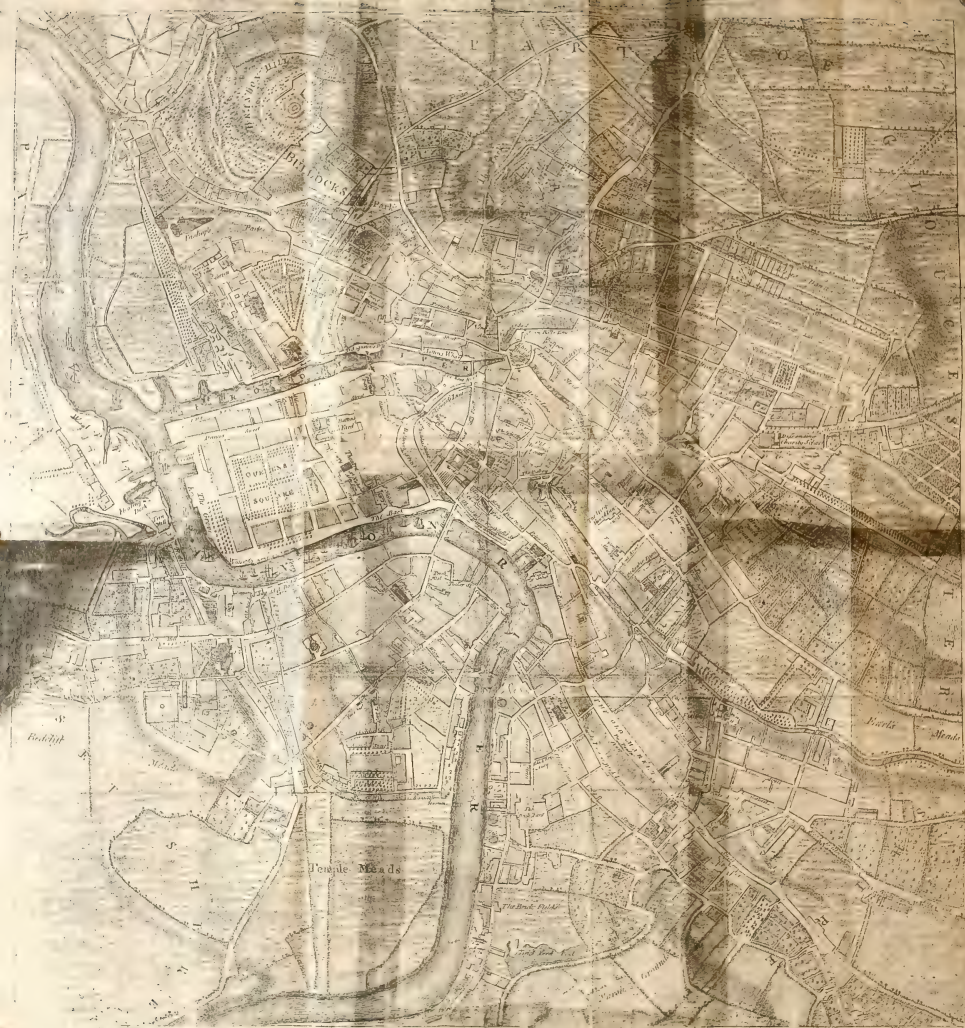
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LEVI AMES, Esq; Mayor;  
The Worshipful the ALDERMEN, and COMMON  
COUNCIL of the City of *B R I S T O L*.

*G E N T L E M E N,*

1825635

**T**O you is the HISTORY OF BRISTOL with propriety inscribed, to which you have a natural and peculiar Claim. By public Spirit, Virtue and Loyalty, your predeceffors procuring Liberties and ample Privileges by Charters from our Kings and Queens raised this City to an high rank in the nation, and by the same their successors have exalted it to the dignity of being the Second City in the kingdom.

Reformed as it is in its POLICE, enlarged in the number and extent of its Buildings, and increased in its Trade and Opulence, may it long flourish by your vigilant and active Care, by the great Credit and Reputation of its Merchants, and the VIRTUE AND INDUSTRY of the Citizens; and by using the natural local advantages of improving its Port and Harbour to the utmost, may the Honour be yours of compleating its Grandeur, that Ships may resort hither more and more from every Quarter of the Globe, and the Commerce and Prosperity of the City continue to advance to latest posterity.

*I have the honour to be,*

*Worshipful S I R S,*

*Your most obliged and obedient*

*Humble Servant,*

WRAXAL,

WILLIAM BARRETT



## P R E F A C E.

HOW the History of Bristol, so long expected, is at length offered to the public the reader may be curious to know. Twenty years have elapsed since collections for the design were sought for with great assiduity and no small expence, and some progress made in compiling it, and even the copper-plates were engraved for the work in folio; but the author, engaged in a business that commanded all his time and attention, receiving no encouragement to proceed, and finding there was more likelihood for him, "*oleum et operam perdere*," sat down contented with his first loss and wholly desisted from the undertaking, locking up his papers for several years, intending to leave them to one of more leisure and to a time more auspicious and favourable to the undertaking. Retiring from business into the country and often confined by the gout, he thought he should find some amusement in this literary employ, and resumed the long intermitted task, that he might leave it in a less unfinished state to be completed and published hereafter. At this time a worthy Doctor of one of our universities, deservedly esteemed by all for his singular humanity and friendly disposition, visited him and warmly solicited him to proceed with the work and publish it himself in his life-time; for posthumous works were often neglected, seldom executed to the author's mind, and not unfrequently lost. In a letter afterwards he urged the matter with great earnestness, and most generous tender of his friendship, concluding with the following spirited expressions, which he applied to this occasion. "*Hominem te durum et penè crudelem, qui tam insignes libros tam diu teneas. Sine per ora hominum ferantur, &c. Quosque tibi et nobis invidebis? Tibi laudem, nobis maximam voluptatem. Magna etiam longaque expectatio est quam frustrari adhuc et differre non debes. — HABE ANTE OCULOS MORTALITATEM!* Define studia tua infinità istà cunctatione fraudare, quæ cum modum excedat, verendum est, ne inertix et desidix vel etiam timiditatis nomen accipiat." This added a spur to irresolution, and the "*habe ante oculos mortalitatem*" made an impression irresistible, applied to one in a declining state of health and years. In a word, the work was immediately resumed and prosecuted without intermission, and then offered to the public, who have liberally patronized it, as the list of subscribers will shew, which



which would do honour to any work, and cannot but excite in the author a due sense of gratitude.

Some readers may perhaps be surprized at the length of this History, whilst others may express their wonder at its being comprized in one volume: the former may think it unnecessary to descend to minute particulars, whilst the latter will judge every thing not fully related and every authority not quoted in the original words an omission. — The author has endeavoured to steer a middle course, and will readily give his reasons. Had he been more brief, he could not have given so much information about the religious houses, the castle, and their governors, their antiquities, nor of the manners of those times; nor indeed of their present state. The reader must have contented himself with a superficial view of things, such as his own eyes and observation might have presented him with, in which case he would have turned away displeased at not being informed more than he knew before. On the contrary, if he had been more prolix, and transcribed at length the several Latin deeds of endowment, original authorities, and charters, he must have filled a large folio or two quarto volumes. The learned antiquarian would receive much satisfaction doubtless in perusing the ancient deeds and authentic documents in the original; but as all such are long and tedious, if the principal matters contained therein be noticed, the rest would unnecessarily swell the volume, and serve only a certain class of readers: and therefore though the beginning of the original deed is often given, the translation follows in English for the ease and information of the less learned reader; but sometimes where the deed is very important and curious, and not too long, the whole is given. The number of Latin deeds, that might with propriety have found a place here, is such as alone would have filled a volume. They were collected at different times, the greatest number by the late Mr. Alexander Morgan, (whose indefatigable pains and industry in this way for many years, as well as Mr. Haines's, should have their due praise) besides others transcribed from Dugdale, Stevens, and Rymer; but to refer to them and to abridge others was judged to be in general sufficient, though to avoid deforming the page few marginal references are set down, but the great storehouse of TANNER is constantly referred to. The original deeds and copies collected for this History have been procured with so much labour, it would be a great loss to have them dispersed, after the extracts for this work have been made from them; it is intended therefore to lodge them in some public repository, probably the Bristol Library. Whoever considers well the time and trouble employed in making such a collection, will readily agree to the propriety of such a measure.





As to those manuscripts of Rowley, now first published; whatever judgment be formed about them, they are here faithfully transcribed, that by producing all the evidence the judicious reader may be enabled the better to form his opinion concerning that controversy.

Before I conclude I must add, that by a manuscript in Corpus Christi college library, Cambridge, CCCC.V. p. 26. entitled "Constitutiones Villæ Bristolliaë," (which I did not receive till the last sheet of this work was printed off) it appears, among other curious particulars, how they were enabled to build the old bridge, which I have said "no where appears," see p. 79. "Petunt burgenses sibi restitui pontem Avenæ, &c." i. e. "The burgeses also desire that the bridge of Avon be restored to them and the rents upon the bridge, which bridge they and their ancestors built new from the brink or stream (fio) of the water at their own charges together with the alms of the faithful, and have supported until this day, and are ready perpetually to support it; and in aid of supporting it they have erected certain rents upon the same bridge; and for the Indulgence of those who help, and prohibition of those who would deduct from it, they have a bull of Pope Innocent 3d. the predecessor of Honorius and Gregory. They also desire to be restored to them the rents of a certain house and ground, which they bought at the head of the bridge on the south side, for which they have the charter of the abbot and convent of Keynsham, of whom they hold the said ground; and also have the confirmation of King John concerning the said ground; upon which great part of the said bridge is founded and supported."—They say also, "that out of the profits of the guild merchants and of the town they support eight bridges, the pavement or pitching, five conduits of water, the Key (Kayam) before the ships, and the public officers; and that the murage is expended only in inclosing and fortifying the town and suburb, for which it was granted; and that no waggon, no packhorse, no man, shall unload his burden, without first paying the custom to the prepositior, (nisi custumetur ad prepositum,) &c."

Though there is no date to this curious manuscript, it must be about the year 1314, for they desire therein "to choose a mayor and bailiffs whom they know will be more useful and faithful to their Lord the King," who were chosen in that year.

The author having thus endeavoured to fulfil his engagements to the public must now take his leave, requesting the candid reader's favour to excuse all omissions and errors;

Quos aut incuria fudit

Aut humana parum caveat natura.



# E R R A T A.

PAGE 18, line 19, for *unlikely* read *unlike* to.

20, l. 17, for *Tacitor* r. *Tacito*.

37, l. 35, for *pono* r. *porro*; for *pacaverat* r. *paraverat*.

68, l. 9, for *in* r. *fi*.

117, l. 25, for *were* r. *was*.

164, l. 27, for 1131 r. 1311.

321, l. 1, dele "*Hinton and*."

381, l. 27, dele mark of reference over "*priory*," and place it over "*founded*," l. 1.

429, note, for *eruptive* r. *eruption on*.

433, l. 20, for *charged* r. *changed*.

556, l. 37, for 1 Sept. r. 1 March.

571, l. 29, for *handards* r. *standards*.

## *Directions to the Binder where to place the Plates.*

- ✓ 1. The large Plan of the City to front the title-page.
- ✓ 2. The Roman Camps to face p. 18.
- ✓ 3. The old Plan of the City to face p. 51.
- ✓ 4. The second Plan of the City to face page 57.
- ✓ 5. The Hotwells to face p. 92.
- ✓ 6. The Cathedral and Crane Views to face p. 87.
- ✓ 7. The View of Vincent's Rock to face p. 94.
- ✓ 8. The Exchange. The print to be cut in the middle.
- ✓ 9. The front to face p. 140, the back to follow it.
- ✓ 10. The Bridge to face p. 96.
- ✓ 11. The old Castle to face p. 196.
- ✓ 12. Ditto to face p. 200.
- ✓ 13. The Cathedral to face p. 246.
- ✓ 14. Abby Gate House to face p. 287.
- ✓ 15. Ichnography of the Cathedral to face p. 292.
- ✓ 16. View of the Cathedral, &c. to face p. 294.
- ✓ 17. Colfer's Monument, to face p. 299.
- ✓ 18. St. Mark's Church to face p. 344.
- ✓ 19. St. James's Church to face p. 383.
- ✓ 20. Religious Device on a Tomb to face p. 400.
- ✓ 21. All Saints Church to face p. 438.
- ✓ 22. Colston's Monument to face p. 444.
- ✓ 23. Views of the Exchange to face p. 460.
- ✓ 24. The Back View to face p. 461.
- ✓ 25. Christ Church and the High Cross to face p. 464.
- ✓ 26. Coopers' Hall to face p. 505.
- ✓ 27. St. Stephen's Church to face 510.
- ✓ 28. Merchant's Hall to face p. 516.
- ✓ 29. Redcliff Church to face p. 574.
- ✓ 30. The Fac Simile of Rowley's Manuscript to face p. 637.



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# C O N T E N T S.

CHAP. I. **O**F Bristol in general : its origin, names and antiquity, page 7.—  
of the Abone of Antonine, Roman coins 13—Roman camps 18  
—Iter to Caer-Went from Bath 24, &c.

CHAP. II.—Of the city in the Saxon and Norman times, Turgot's account of it  
31—Anglo Saxon Earls Lords of it 35—on Saxon coining by Turgot  
37—coins of Harold, W. 1. and Robert Earl of Glocester &c. struck at  
Bristol 40—Mr. Canynges cabinet of ancient monuments by Rowley 44  
—of the city in W. 1. H. 2. 3. times &c. 46.

CHAP. III.—Description of the city as first laid out, plan, ground plot 51—  
river Fromm 52—rise and progress of the Avon 53—walls, gates &c. 54—  
middle state of the city and plan 57—religious houses 58—hermitage of  
St. Brendan with the form of shutting up in it for life 61—chapels, hospi-  
tals, chantries 62—of making the Quay 66—of the Bridge 73—chapel  
on it 79—view of the old Bridge 80.

CHAP. IV.—Of the city in its present improved state 82—of floating the ships  
always 87—of Hungroad and Kingroad 89, 90—of the Hotwells 91, 92—  
of the New Bridge 96—number of houses 100—conduits 101—markets  
&c. 102—bounds of the city 105—described in Latin verse 113.

CHAP. V.—Of its civil government and officers 114—wards 119—choosing  
mayors 120—city revenues 126, 140—church livings 128—crown rents  
bought off 132—charity loan money 136—annual charities 138—of bur-  
gesses of Parliament and writs 142—list of Members 149.

CHAP. VI.—On the trade of the city 164—Canynges trade 170—Cabot's  
voyage 171, 172—exemption from the power of the Admiralty 175—  
Guy's settling Newfoundland 177—ancient guild of merchants 179—  
Merchants' Society incorporated 181—Severn its rise 183—glass trade and  
distillery &c. bad effects of spirituous liquors 185—trade calculated,  
number of ships and customs 186, 190.



CHAP. VII.—Of the castle, early founded 192—rebuilt by Robert Earl of Gloucester; plan by Rowley; Wm. of Worcester's account—Leland's 194, 199—Lord Wardens, and long to Ella 202, 203—Britrick 205—Godfry of Coutance 206—Robert Earl of Gloucester, his character 209, 210—castle in the crown and grant of the constableness 213—the several Constables 214—Sir Baldwin Fulford executed 220—castle fortified in C. 1. time 225—taken by Prince Rupert 228—by Fairfax 230—articles of capitulation 237—Prince Rupert's vindication 238—cleared 241—the ordnance on the line 245.

CHAP. VIII.—Of the abbey of St. Augustin, poem on Fitzhardyng founder 246—Lords of Berkeley to p. 257—its endowment and grants 258—form of electing the abbot 259—abbey in disorder and visited 261—abbots 266—dissolution 270—deeds 272.

CHAP. IX.—Of the bishoprick, diocese &c. 278—H. 8. deed of erection 279—churches in the diocese 280—cathedral and officers 283—described 288—abbey gate 287—church rebuilt 289—ichnography 292—monuments 295—endowment 308—of the bishoprick 314—of the dean and chapter 319—bishops 327—deacons 339.

CHAP. X.—Church of St. Mark's 343—monuments 347—Gaunts hospital 353—founders 357—benefactors 364—masters 372—dissolution 373—Q. Eliz. hospital 376 &c.

CHAP. XI.—Church of St. James and priory 379—its site 381—ministers 388—monuments 390—benefactors 393—Franciscan friery 339—Dominican 400—almshouse 402—infirmery 403.

CHAP. XII.—Of the church of St. Augustin the less 405—Carmelite friery 412—Colston's hospital 414—Redmaids hospital 415.

CHAP. XIII.—Of the church of St. Michael 416—Magdalen nunnery 426—St. Bartholemew's hospital 428—by Rowley 429—grammar-school 432—Foster's almshouse 434—Colston's almshouse 435.

CHAP. XIV.—Church of All-Saints &c. 437—Colston's monument and benefactions 444—of the house and fraternity of Kalendaries 449—Exchange built and opened 459.

CHAP. XV.—Christ-Church 464—of the High Cross 473—of the church of St. Owen 475—fraternity of St. John 476.





- CHAP. XVI.—Church of St. Werburgh 479—rectors 481—monuments 482.
- CHAP. XVII.—Church of St. John and St. Lawrence 487—Guildhall 493.
- CHAP. XVIII.—Church and parish of St. Nicholas 494—rebuilt 495—monuments 498—church of St. Leonard 506—Bristol library 508.
- CHAP. XIX.—Church and parish of St. Stephen 509—monuments 514—Merchants'-Hall 516—almshouse and fund for decayed seamen 517.
- CHAP. XX.—Church of St. Peter 518—Newgate 523—St. Maryport 524—by Rowley 525—monuments 526.
- CHAP. XXI.—Of the church and parish of St. Phillip 528—endowment of the vicarage 529—Barstaple's or Trinity almshouse 536—St. Lawrence hospital 538—St. George's church in Kingfwood 540—Kingfwood chace 541.
- CHAP. XXII.—Church and parish of Temple 541—by Rowley—the vicarage purchased 544—Augustinian friery 553—Dr. White's hospital 554—Collson's school 555—St. Paul's fair 556.
- CHAP. XXIII.—Church and parish of St. Thomas &c. 557—St. Thomas market 565.
- CHAP. XXIV.—Church and parish of St. Mary Redcliff 566—Rowley's life of Sir Simon de Burton 568—Wm. Canynges 569, 571—his gift to friers minors 572—church described 573—Hogarth's paintings 575—monuments 580 &c.—St. John's hospital 594—Redcliff school 596—St. Catherine's hospital 598—Parliament of Sprites by Rowley 600.
- CHAP. XXV.—Great benefactors to the city and their several endowments 610.
- CHAP. XXVI.—Eminent Bristol men 624—Wm. Canynges and pedigree 626—letters to and from Rowley 632—poem of "A nent a Brooklet" & fac simile 637—Chatterton's letters to Mr. Walpole 639—his death 647 &c.—Archbishop Matthews 652—Bishop Thomas 653—Mr. Collson 654 &c.
- ANNALS of the city &c. 659.



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## OF BRISTOL IN GENERAL.

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### CHAP. I.

#### *Of its ORIGIN, NAMES, and ANTIQUITY.*

THE GREAT JEHOVAH, “ who hath made of one blood all nations to dwell upon the earth, and determined the bounds of their habitation,” assigned to man at first this one employ, with labour to till the ground in which he was placed. — Thus we find patriarchs and people engaged in agriculture only and the pastoral life, till increasing they went off in tribes to seek more distant habitations; and mutual wants requiring mutual assistance, various occupations became necessary; new countries producing new commodities were inhabited, and a commercial intercourse by barter and exchange was soon established betwixt them.

The borderers on the great rivers and sea coasts employed themselves in fishing, which naturally produced a race of seamen; and probably laid the foundation of sea voyages, to which the islands when peopled seem by situation to have been necessarily addicted.

The island of BRITAIN received its first colony from GAUL; and Cæsar upon his invading it found it full of inhabitants, who made a bold resistance: but as he did not penetrate far into the country, his account must be very imperfect—though the Roman conquest of it afterwards laid the foundation of its civilization. The rough manners of the natives became more polished; their wandering course of life more fixed and settled; camps were laid out and fortresses erected with greater skill; arts and arms began to flourish; their pastoral employment to be neglected for more useful occupations and traffic; which brought together into societies the dispersed inhabitants, and towns arose and cities were built for them to live together united under a civil government.



The first rise of ancient places and the early period in which they became distinguished as Villis, Towns, Burghs, or Cities, it is always difficult with exactness to ascertain : and the greater the antiquity of the place, the more intricate and perplexed must our researches into its original necessarily be. I shall endeavour to trace this city back through the obscurity of remote times, to remove the vague conjectures of some, and adopt the clearest account of it that can be derived from the best authorities and rational investigation.

BRISTOL, though some writers will not allow us to boast of its antiquity, through prejudice or too superficial enquiry, may yet justly lay claim to a very early origin : its natural advantages of situation, its two rivers, its easy communication with the main ocean by its channel, and with the inland parts of England and with Wales by the rivers Avon and Severn, its convenience and security for defence, invited our British ancestors to fix their seat here in the earliest times under the name of *Caër Brito*, or *Briton*, i. e. the *British City*; nigh to and just under the *Roman city*, or station *Abone*, at Clifton and Rownham Hill, at the time of the Romans governing this island, and during their residence in this neighbourhood at their camps there, which appear venerable in their ruins at this day.

Gildas, about the year 580, gives us a very particular account of 28 cities that adorned this nation ; and Nennius, about the year 620, gives us the catalogue of them, and mentions *Caër Brito* as one of the 28, famous in ancient times. Bede, who died 734, aged 59, says in like manner, "*Britannia erat, &c.*" i. e. "*Britain* was famous in ancient times for 28 most noble cities, besides " castles, both furnished with gates and strong bolts, walls, and towers." Henry of Huntingdon, in 1148, copying from Nennius, gives us *Caër Bristow* for *Caër Brito*. — But Mr. Camden, though he acknowledges its British name *Caër Brito*, yet very contradictorily says, " It rose in the declension of the " Saxon government, since it is not any where taken notice of before the " year of our Lord 1063, when Harold, as Florence of Worcester has it, set " sail from Bristow to invade Wales." That this excellent antiquary was deceived in his opinion, and that Bristol was a very ancient and renowned place contrary to what he has intimated, will be made appear in the progress of this History. The silence of the monkish writers can at best be no proof of its late rise ; for according to the confined mistaken notions that then prevailed, those places alone which could boast the most early establishment of monasteries, the most rich and splendid endowment of religious houses are chiefly celebrated in their writings, and claim particular notice or attention from them ; while places of trade and commerce were little noted or mentioned.



The authority of Mr. Cambden has unhappily so influenced succeeding antiquaries, that they seem all to have copied his error and rested in his authority. But his allowing *Caër Brito* in the ancient catalogue of British cities to be *Bristol*, and yet immediately afterwards giving it so late an origin as the very decline of the Saxon government here, shews such oversight and inaccuracy as can seldom be imputed to this great author, whose indefatigable industry and extensive knowledge enabled him to produce such a work as the *BRITANNIA*. The easiest solution to be given of this seeming contradiction in Mr. Cambden is, that he meant it made no very conspicuous figure in the annals of history, rose to no great pitch of honour as a seat of war or port of commerce, (*emerfisse*,) emerged not out of a kind of obscurity in those respects till towards that period; being probably induced to think so by a passage he might have seen in Leland's manuscript, though seldom quoted by him, who (in *Cygn. Cant.*) says, "*Venta Belgarum* (meaning Bristol) was not a " large city, it was increased by the SAXONS."

Though the chroniclers make no very early mention of it, being situated out of the road of most of the military operations of those days; yet that it was altogether an unnoticed place both as to Religious and Secular matters cannot be conceived, since Mr. Cambden himself, in his Somersetshire, takes notice, that "Jordan, the companion of St. Augustin, had his oratory and burial " place here, and his pulpit of stone, said to be in the old hospital of Bartholomew:" But Leland better describes it, "at St. Augustine's Black " Channons; extra mœnia, ibique in magna arêâ facellum, in quo sepultus " est S. Jordanus, unus ex discipulis Augustini Anglorum Apostoli;" the monastery itself afterwards erected here being called after the name and dedicated to St. Augustin, probably in commemoration of that event.

Neither can it be supposed with the least shadow of reason, that Harold and Swain were the first of note that ever took shipping here, though none may be mentioned before them in our chronicles, as its port must have been ever so convenient for voyages into Ireland and passage into Wales.—Anderson indeed says, in his History of Commerce, printed 1764, vol. 1. p. 19 and 86, "Bristol is reckoned by Gildas among the fortified and eminent cities of " Britain so early as the year 430;" (though he has not mentioned the page in Gildas;) "and that it existed as a town or fort in the fifth century, notwithstanding the assertion of Mr. Cambden to the contrary; and again that it " was a place of account in the fifth century when the Romans left Britain."

It will be shewn hereafter, that upon the retreat of the Romans, and the subversion of their great cities at *Caërleon* and *Caërwent*, the Britons in great





numbers passing the Severn back again to Bristol, occupied the town here in the room of those destroyed; as this was by nature a securer station, and out of the road of those invasions and tempests that have fallen heavy on other ground, nor subject to sudden surprises, surrounded as it is by the Avon and Frome. — And when afterwards the Saxons came and dispossessed them, these enlarged it, and soon rendered it a most flourishing place and port of trade, to the great decay of Chepflow and other places, which never since have recovered their trade.

But there is an ancient British name which they seem to agree it had at first, *Caër Oder Nante Badon*: Leland says, “ Bristol in early ages was probably “ called the city Odera, and that Nante Badon, i. e. in the vale of Bath, was “ added to it, because Bath was but eleven miles distant from it;” and then he makes this remark, that “ Nante signifies a valley in which a river flows, “ I should therefore read it Nante Avon from that river, which may be conjectured from a place in Antonines Itinerary, called Abone, or Avone, the “ name of a city.”

The original authority, besides Leland, for *Caër Oder*, is not known: Humphry Lhuyd is cited by Ortelius for it, who says in *Theaur. Geograph.* 1587, (under *Venta Belgarum*.) “ Ptolomæo & Antonino Britanniae Insulae “ Oppidum, quod Humphridus (scil. Lhuuydus) scribit Britannice *Caer Oder* “ yn Nante Badon & Anglice *Bristol* vocari: *Bristolium* hoc nominant “ Juniores Latini. Cambdenus dicit hanc *Belgarum Ventam* hodiè *Winchester* “ vocari: idem *Ventam Icenorum Cæster* interpretatur. *Ventam* habet *Beda* “ quoque, quam Saxonice *Wintancester* nominatam scribit. *Venta Silurum* “ Antonino Britanniae urbs est, quam Cambdenus & Humphridus *Caërwent* “ appellari aiunt.”

The city “ *Caër Brito, Britodunum, Bristol or Bristold*,” says Baxter, p. 187, “ was by the Britons called *Caër Oder, Civitas Limitis*, a frontier city;” and *Stol* and *Stow* he makes to be p. 220, “ a place, a seat or city.” This agrees very well with its situation as a frontier town of defence for the Britons before they were driven into Wales their last refuge, and for the Mercians or West Saxons afterwards.

We need not wonder at our want of an explicit account of the British cities, (which though called British, yet if not Roman, were certainly built by their means, and under their protection;) for Gildas himself acknowledges, “ *Libri* “ *Britanni combusti fuerunt, &c.*” i. e. the books of the Britons were burnt, “ and it came to that pass, through the Roman Governors and Proprætors left “ here, that whatever Britain had of copper, silver or gold, was marked with  
the



“ the image of Cæsar:” Leland’s remark upon which is, *hoc verum videtur*, “ this seems to be true.”—But whatever credit is given to the names of the British cities mentioned by these early writers, or whether rightly ascribed to certain cities, now flourishing or arising from them or not, yet that their first original was from the Roman stations near to them seems scarce questionable: and most of the British cities of note, if not founded by the Romans, yet afterwards through them soon increased in number and elegance. Some indeed contend that the Britons towns and strongholds at first were nothing but spots of ground surrounded with trees, felled down and secured with a ditch and rampire, according to Cæsar’s and Strabo’s account, and their temples were groves consecrated by the Druids.

Dr. Stillingfleet observes with great probability indeed, that the twenty-eight British cities mentioned in Nennius and Gildas, are to be understood of the Roman times, and were certainly Roman-British, arising out of their stations or camps in the neighbourhood of such.—And Dr. Stukely in his account of Richard of Cirencester, says, “ that Nennius and Gildas name twenty-eight “ most famous cities in Britain, which the excellent Archbishop Usher has “ commented upon; and though the catalogue is different from Richard’s, yet “ he is confirmed in calling *Verulam* a municipium, which in Nennius is called “ *Cæſar Municip.*” But it is very clear that the Romans had many cities that might lie out of their general road or tract, unnoticed either by Antonine, Nennius, Gildas or Richard: the last indeed plainly confesses it in cap. 7. de Situ Britanniae.

“ *At præter allatas modo Urbes, &c. i. e.* Besides the cities here produced, let “ no one hastily believe that the Romans had not more in Britain; for I have “ only mentioned the more famous cities: for who can doubt but that these “ Lords of the whole earth chose at their will, and claimed to themselves many “ other places which they knew convenient for their purposes,” adding this remarkable expression, “ *plerumque aliàs in castris quæ condiderant ipsi, “ degebant;*” that “ for the most part they otherwise lived in the camps which “ they had founded.”

It might indeed be justly observed, that out of twenty-eight flourishing cities, which were famous in this island in the times of the Britons and Romans, it is highly probable that Bristol so happy in its situation by nature, so capable of being made the most defensible place by art, was one of the number.\*

It

\* Lel. Coll. v. 3. p. 250. “ *Civitatum nomina sunt hic obscure & confuse posita; multa vetera prætermissa, recentiora aliquot adscripta:*”—“ The names of many old cities are omitted, and some “ new ones set down in the catalogue of cities.”—It is no wonder then that Bristol should not be more plainly noticed in that confused list.



It may be further urged, that Bristow is but an easy alteration of the name Brito, and that it seems to have suffered this change at the Saxon conquest, as has been the fate of most places when conquered, the name being Saxonized, and afterwards variously modified according to the different manner of spelling and fancy of the chroniclers of early ages; some times preserving somewhat of the original name, at other times transferring it into their language wholly. *Caër-Brito* signified the painted or embellished city. The Saxons seemed to have regard to the construction of the word as well as the sound of the letters in naming it Bright-Stow, the illustrious city; and received it with little variation of sound of the original word in their own sense to express a town, whose agreeable situation and circumstances, like the Callipolis of the Greeks, and Clarence of the French, give a propriety to the name. Or it may have received the name *Caër-Brito*, the British city, separated as it was from, and so called in distinction to, the Roman city or station Abone near it: *Brit* in the old British signifying also *separated*, and *Britain* the separated place or isle, according to some.—Thus the orthography of the word *Brito* might pass into Brysto, Brystoc, T. Ed. Conf. Bryghsto, \* Bristou, Brightstoc, Bricgslowe, and Brigestow, early in the Saxon times: in 1106 Brigston;† in 1140 Brislowe.—By Florence of Worcester, in 1114, it is called Bricstow. By Henry of Huntingdon, 1148, Brigestou. In 1190, in King John's Charter, when Earl of Morton, now extant in Latin in the Chamber of Bristol, it is throughout wrote Bristallum: the Normans wrote it Bristoit—so in the old French deeds: since, by Leland and most of the old manuscripts, Bryghtslowe: but the Saxons, who seem to have imposed this name of Brycghslowe, i. e. a bright, illustrious place, we may reasonably presume found it in that flourishing condition, or the name could have been applied with no sort of propriety, unless we suppose it to be a casual variation of *Caër Brito*, its old original name. It might indeed have the name of Brigston from the Saxon Bricg, a Bridge, i. e. a town with bridges,‡ as Bishop Gibson has derived it, which seems well enough calculated for the peninsular situation of the old town, surrounded almost with water, which had great need of, and still hath, of bridges to preserve a communication

\* Saxon Chron. p. 193. 230. 241. and in II. 2. time called Bristou in Mag. Rotul. 31. H. 2. Rot. 10. 1191. 7s. 5d. de exitu Bristou molendinorum & Nundinarum.

† In Atkins's Gloucestershire, p. 738, where we find the church of St. Peter of Brigston, and the title of the rent of Brigston granted to the monastery of Tewkesbury in 1106, in a charter of H. 1. to that house.

‡ That the etymology of the name of Bristol should be a little uncertain, is not to be wondered at, being the case of all cities of antiquity, even of London itself, which is said to be derived from the British *Lhong-dinas*, i. e. a city of ships.



munication with different places about it; though the great bridge over the Avon till a later date was not in being: \**Brigstou quasi locus pontis*, Bridge-Town: in Doomſday-book, and in the ancient charters of H. 2. and H. 3. and in other public acts, where we might expect to find the orthography best preserved, it is most usually styled Bristol, Bristou or Bristol, though the latter seems to have been most commonly used, and is now adopted, the rest among the moderns being deemed quite obsolete.

In a manuscript charter *penes me*, from King Edw. Conf. a. r. 9°. I find it wrote Brystoe: this with the other charters will be inserted hereafter, in the annals for the respective year.

Having thus shewn its several names, and how the original name Caër Brito might probably have been altered at different times, yet has preserved nevertheless the found of the original in some respects, we must not omit the Roman name *Venta Belgarum*, with which it has been thought by some to have been distinguished by that military people. This name is ascribed to it by Leland, Lambard, and some others; and it seems to agree well with Ptolomy's description of such a city lying next under the Dobuni or Gloucestershire: but Mr. Camden is certainly right in giving to Winchester this name, as the Itinerary of Antonine, confirmed by Richard of Cirencester, plainly and indubitably points out. And in this opinion all at present seem to concur, how widely soever they have differed about placing the Abone of Antonine. But now at length this may with equal truth be ascertained. It was here in the neighbourhood of Bristol the Romans fixed this their station Abone, calling it after the name of the river, on the banks of which they erected it; and it certainly became the parent of the city of Bristol: whether it ever extended its borders afterwards, and took in all the heights adjoining even to Bristol itself, and so included the whole under one name Abone, is difficult now to determine: the city was certainly dependent on, if not immediately connected in one with, the Roman station. But that Abone, the British name of the river, gave name to a city on its banks, is highly probable and very common; the cities often took their names from rivers, and arose as often out of the ruins of ancient encampments and stations of the Romans in their vicinity, or flourished under their protection.

Whether

\* *Brig-flowe*—either Bright-flow or Bridges-flow, so wrote in the Saxon Chronicle, which seems to be a derivation more plausible, and a name it at some time or other more likely had obtained than Burg-flowe, or Borough Town, as some have insinuated.





Whether the city Caër Brito, Caër Oder Nante Badon, or rather Nante Avon, afterwards by the Saxons called Brightflowe, did not thus take its origin, deserves a particular enquiry.

There certainly was a Roman station a little way down the river from Bristol, and the Roman coins dug up at Clifton and in making the Sea-mill dock, and in plowing the adjacent fields, point out their station here, and are proofs not to be doubted; and it is very extraordinary that neither Cambden, Horfeley, Stukely, nor any antiquary has so much as even thought of this straight and and nearest passage between Bath and Caerwent; but their attachment to Oldbury, as the only Trajeſtus mentioned in the Itinerary in theſe parts, certainly diverted their attention from it. And beſides the communication of of Roman poſts and ſtrong holds acroſs the Severn here, particularly to be deſcribed hereafter, hiſtory will afford us ſomething for confirmation. *Tac. Annal. lib. 12*, ſays, “ Oſtorius detrahare arma ſuſpectis, cinſoſque caſtris “ Sabrinam & Antonam fluvios cohibere parat:” i. e. “ Oſtorius took away their arms from thoſe who were ſuſpected, and reſtrained thoſe on the rivers Avon and Severn, by ſurrounding them with camps.” Hence it appears, that Oſtorius, the better to curb the Britons, poſted his forces on the banks of the Antona and Severn; \* and having before defeated the Icenî, who not brooking ſome indignity had taken up arms for the liberties of their country, he afterwards fell upon the Cangi, † and ravaged almoſt as far as the Iriſh ſea, which could be no other than the ſea that beats on the Weſt Country coaſt. From hence he was called back to reſreſs a ſedition of the Brigantes, and then paſſed into the country of the Silures, where he defeated Caraſtacus, who had politiciſly tranſlated the war thither, as a country of difficult acceſs: by this ſeries of action and deſcription of countries which Tacitus gives, it appears that the Cangi bordered near the Severn; that to reſtrain them Oſtorius placed gariſons near the Severn and Antona, which was a river emptying itſelf into the Severn, and lay equally advantageous for placing his ſoldiers as the Severn did; which cannot be more truly affirmed of any river than the Briſtol Avon: at leaſt the Avon oppoſite to Caerwent of the Silures acroſs the Severn (where they had ſuch ſtrong camps) could not have been neglected by him in this important ſervice. — There are other Avons indeed, one particularly in Warwickſhire, to which ſome would attribute the name Antona, and ſome

\* Horſely, p. 36, ſays “ Sabrina doubtleſs is the Severn. And Antona muſt alſo be the “ Avon. Some write the ancient name Aufona, and the anonymous Ravennas writes it Abona.”

† There is much advanced concerning the Cangi, but nothing ſatisſactory. It is clear from the ſtory, however, that Oſtorius paſſed through the country of the Cangi, which he had waſted, and after this came near the weſtern coaſt;



some to the river Nen. And though Mr. Cambden would seem to retract and persuade himself and us, that Ostorius blocked up the Britons betwixt the Warwickshire Avon and the Sabrina; yet it is not probable that he fixt his stations and encampments there, since this river falls into a higher part of the Severn, nor could the Cangi, if of Somersetshire, be affected by them. — But the alliance of the Bristol Avon with the Severn and Irish sea is apparent; and Pliny, (*Nat. Hist. lib. iv. c. 16.*) speaking of Ireland, makes it thirty miles from the Silures, which though a mistake in the calculation does evidence, that the country where the Silures inhabited, on the other side of the Severn, to the West of the Ostium where the Avon discharges, was esteemed in the Roman account as bordering on or descending towards the Irish sea: the little island and village called Scilly in the Bristol Channel points out the seat of the Silures, though others place the Cangi in different parts.

But the name of Cangi seems still to exist in the names of some places in the western parts; Cainsham, Wincaunton, and the Cannington or Canningham marshes, in the Saxon chronicle, which were the marshes of Somersetshire. — Besides those places mentioned by Cambden as preserving in their name the sound of Cangi in Somersetshire, to which the Roman army was led, (*Tacit. l. iv. Ann. Duclius est ad Cangos*) there were many others as Congersbury, Cangfield, Canford, Caundell, &c. And these traces of the Cangi, in the names of towns of Somersetshire and its confines, are more demonstrative of the Cangi's habitation, on considering that there is no town nor parish in Gloucestershire, Devonshire, &c. that hath the syllable Can, or Cunn, or Cang, (or Quan, as in Quantock) in it: so that it is highly probable the antient inhabitants of these western parts were called the Cangi, and coins of the Roman Emperors have often been found here, at Conquest, Brent-Knoll, &c. Baxter, Glossar. p. 38, says, *Ceangi vel Somersetæ, &c.* “ the “ Ceangi or those of Somerset were of the Belgæ in the time of Ptolemy, for “ he makes Ilchester and Bath belong to them,” and p. 71, “ the Ceangi were “ not less apt for war than the pastoral life they followed:” we see that the Danmonian Cangi or of Somerset, “ fortem operam in Ostorium Scapulam navavisse,” performed great exploits against Ostorius Scapulæ, and p. 74, “ these Cangi were of that country called, from the Summer-seats of shepherds, “ Somerset, of which Somerton or Summer Town was very old and the chief.”

These military works and dispositions of some great General so nigh Bristol then seem very probably to have been made here by Ostorius, viz. at Clifton; on Leigh down several, especially on the banks of the Avon and Severn; at Cadbury camp, and near Nailsh; and at Henbury, Almondsbury, Oldbury,



Elberton, and Old Abby, on the Gloucestershire side; and lower down in Somersetshire, at Dolbery, where coins have been dug by Mr. Swimmer; at Worle-hill and East Brent, where on Brent-knoll coins of Severus and Trajan and others in an urn have been found. On both sides the river, besides the encampments hereafter described at Rownham-hill and Clifton, in the vicinage of Bristol, many others are to be noted at the lower part of the Avon, particularly at St. George's and Portbury, which in Leland's Itinerary is called Portchester, where on a rising ground are evident traces of a camp; also near Shirehampton, on the other side of the Avon, are aggera still to be seen as you descend the hilly ground, and coins have lately been found in making the new road in Lord Clifford's park, as you go down to Shirehampton, many of which are in my possession. Add to this, such a regular chain of camps and entrenched posts for so many miles in view of the Severn and near to it, are no where else to be met with in the course of that river; which shews the skill and attention of the Roman General to secure these parts, agreeable to what Gildas says, p. 12, l. 16, "*Quia Barbarorum irruptio timebatur, Turres (Castra) per intervalla ad prospectum maris collocant.*" At Snead-park, and at Sea-mills and its neighbourhood, might be the place of their great resort and principal winter station, and in the river Trim the Roman galleys and boats were secured. It is very remarkable, that, allowing Abone of the Itinerary to be situated at or near Bristol, the distances will nearly agree, and the Trajectory between Caerwent and Bath at length more easily be found. And to this may be added, that some rose-up ground, like an old Roman road, crosses Durdham-down, (where a coin of Constantine was lately dug up) looking towards the station here and in a direct line with it, and pointing towards Hanham in the high road to Bristol (near which road an urn of coins was found lately, not a mile and a half from Bristol) and Bath, (*Aquæ Solis* of the Romans).

An incontestable proof of this being a Roman camp nigh Bristol on Clifton hill,\* may be brought as well from the ditches and aggera still to be seen, as from Roman coins of Nero, Domitian, Trajan and other Roman Emperors being dug up there, also from a curious Roman urn with two handles, tiles, bricks and broken potsherds being found there, when Sir Wm. Draper levelled the ground near the camp, which is most advantageously situated for the purpose: "All Roman encampments, forts or stations were generally set upon hills," as is well observed by Burton in his Comment on the Itinerary. This camp with others at no great distance and in view was placed on such an high ascent to descry an approaching enemy, as the Romans were in an  
 enemy's

\* Coins were found in digging the foundations of the new houses near it, in 1782.



enemy's country ever upon the watch, and at the same time to guard the river, as the river was a guard and secure defence to them.

A particular description of these strong camps near Bristol may be necessary to give the reader some idea of them. And we find they were not unnoticed so early as the year 1480. In a manuscript of Wm. Bottoner in Bennet college library, Cambridge, (lately printed and published by the ingenious Dr. Nasmith 1778,) there is the following description of Clifton rocks, on the summit of which the Roman camp was situated: Thus in English, " At the  
" high rock of Clifton cliff, which begins near the village of Rownham, unto  
" the hermitage and camp on the other side of the waters of Avon and Frome,  
" which high rock begins one mile's space from the town of Bristol; and the  
" said rock continues in its height for a mile long and farther towards Rown-  
" ham road for laying up ships. And the said rock contains in height from  
" the water of the Avon and Frome 60 brachia (fathom) viz. from the firm  
" land to a certain hermitage whose church is founded and dedicated to the  
" honour of St. Vincent, is in height 20 brachia, and from the said hermitage  
" to the bottom of the said river are 40 brachia; and understand, that a bra-  
" chium contains six feet in length.

" The fortified camp upon the height of the ground not distant a quarter of  
" a mile from Clifton cliff is said by vulgar people to be there founded before  
" the time of William the Conqueror by Saracens or Jews by one Ghyft  
" a giant in the land. And that such a fortress was in all likelihood founded  
" there in ancient times, there remains to this day in a great circle a heap of  
" stones, great and small scattered and spread abroad. It is very wonderful  
" to behold these stones globularly lying in such order and in a great circle,  
" for there seems to have been a very strong castrum, which is said to have  
" been for some hundred years past, and is now levelled with the ground.  
" And it therefore is an ornament and honour to my native country Bristol,  
" and to the county of Gloucester, to have or to hear of the foundation of  
" such noble fortresses and camps. I write this among other things for the  
" sake of commemorating this camp or fortress."

By the above extract, incorrect and vague as it may appear to be, however we learn; that the camp or fortress on Clifton rocks did not escape the notice of our ancestors, and though it might be the vulgar opinion, that it was erected before the conquest by Jews or Saracens, yet doubtless the learned of those days certainly knew better, later discoveries have proved it; and as to the height of the rock he seems to have been pretty exact; and it is remarkable, that the place of the hermitage is at this day called Giant's hole, and is about





the distance here set down from the summit of the rock or firm ground. There are still extant the like Roman camps on the opposite side of the river to Clifton, at Rownham-hill, on Leigh down in two places, called Stokeleigh and Bowre-walls now a wood, a deep comb or valley there called Stokeleigh-Slade only separating the two, which have both the advantage of the like lofty situation serving for specula or watch towers, as well as defence and security against the sudden attack of an enemy. The aggera and double ditches are there still to be seen, and they appear magnificent and venerable in their ruins, and a stronger and more defensible situation could no where be chosen. The height of the rocks, the deep intermediate comb, the river below, the deep fofs, and the high banks, shew it to be an advantageous, secure and well chosen station, capable of a good defence, and highly worthy their care and attention. A ford or vadum there over the Avon communicated with both camps on each side of the river. A little lower down the river seems to have been placed the *Castra Hyberna*, being the Roman winter station, abundance of coins having been dug up there in making Sea mill dock in the year 1712. They also met with a fine arched gate way under ground in digging out the dock at its upper part, which seems to have led to some principal part, and the rudera of buildings destroyed, and remains of old foundations have been traced up the adjoining hilly ground next the river side, and were remarked by the ingenious mechanic Mr. Padmore, who conducted the undertaking: and in a field called three acres Roman coins are found at this day, and are turned up there in plowing the fields called Portburies or Polburies. It is remarkable, that under Kingweston hill, in Laurence-weston near the river was a common field called Abone town as mentioned in the rental of Sir Ralph Sadlier, dated 36 Hen. 8. one acre in Campo Abone town. There have been found a Vespasian of a large size; also coins of Constantine, Constance, Galienus; one of Nero thus inscribed, *Nero Claud. Caesar. Aug. Germ. p. m. T R. p. Imp. p. p.* a fine head with a radiated crown; on the reverse *S. C. a Victoria Gradiua*, with a shield in the right hand, inscribed with *S. P. Q. R.* this was picked up by me in a garden adjoining to the dock in 1768, and in a field called the three acres next the Avon I found one of Constance in the year 1775: and in Abel Wantner's manuscript in the Bodleian library it is said "At Pollbury where Trim goeth into the Avon, much coin has been found, conjectured to be the ancient station of the Romans between Bath and Avington, mentioned by Antoninus the Emperor in his journal book." About two miles distant from these and in view of them was another Roman camp, on Blaze-hill near Henbury late the  
seat



feat of T. Farr, Esq; who there dug up great quantities of coins in laying the foundation of a castle-like building he erected on its summit, which commands a most enchanting prospect of the country around, of the Severn and the ships at anchor in Kingroad, and of the vessels passing up the river to Bristol. I cannot but acknowledge his great civility and readiness in sending me the collection he had saved out of the whole.

This camp at Henbury, a manor formerly belonging to the Bishop of Worcester, who had a park here, and which was taken from the Bishoprick and granted to Sir Ralph Sadleir 1 Edw. 6, was of large extent, with a high vallum and double fofs, and is about two miles distant from Clifton camp and Sea-mills. Another at Knoll-hill, Almondsbury, and Over, about two miles farther: and at Old Abby a few miles farther was another, where a curious tessellated pavement, in the year 1787, was found in a farmer's yard.

The following coins were found at Henbury, in the year 1708, by Sir Simon Harcourt, from an autograph.

## FACE OF OBVERSE.

*Constantinus Magnus.*

*Trajan:* a very fair medal in copper, of a large size.

*Marcus Aurelius Antoninus.*

*Vespasian:* several in middle size copper.

*Constantius:* very fair in small copper.

Ditto, small copper.

Ditto.

*Licinius.*

*Geta:* small silver.

*Marcus Aurelius Antoninus.*

*Adrian:* large copper.

*Trajan. Faustina.*

*Antoninus Pius.*

A British gold coin, coined at Malden or Colchester, in Essex; an ear of corn on one side.

*Caligula:* large copper.

*Nero:* ditto.

## REVERSE.

*Romulus & Remus.*

A female figure sitting, in her left hand a cornucopia, in the right the rudder of a ship, subscribed S. C.

A female figure sacrificing on an altar, *Salut. Aug. S. C.*

A large altar, subscribed *Reverentia.*

A Mars marching, circumscribed *Conservatio.*

*Felix Temporum reparatio.*

A castle, and circumscribed *Provident. Aug.*

*Genio populi Romani.*

*Invictus.*

A funeral pile, S. C.

A ship with several figures.

A female figure captive, *Britan.*

A horse, C. A. M. O.



## FACE OF OBVERSE.

*Julian*, the Apostate.  
*Domitian*: middle size copper.  
*Nerva*.  
 Ditto.  
*Galenus*; a radiated crown.  
*Probus*.  
*D. N. Constantinus P. f. Aug.*

## REVERSE.

*Votis x. Multis xx.*  
 Two hands joined, *Exercituum Concordia*.  
*Fortuna redux*.  
 A deer, *Cos. Aug.*  
*Latitia Aug.*  
 Drawing a captive out of a den.

The following coins were dug up at Sea-mills, 1712.

<i>Imp. Cæs. Vespasianus, P. f. Aug.</i>	<i>Concordia Militum.</i>
Ditto.	A temple, in the <i>Exergue</i> , <i>Providentia</i> .
<i>Imp. Dioclesianus, P. f. Aug.</i>	A fitting figure.
<i>Imp. Cæs. Domitianus Aug.</i>	A figure holding a flower in her hand.
<i>Imp. Cæs. Antoninus, P. f. Aug.</i>	A figure holding a cornucopia.
<i>D. N. Constantinus, P. f. Aug. p. p.</i>	A Man transfixing a suppliant captive with a dart.

The following were dug at St. Baze-hill, Henbury, 1768.

<i>Imp. Cæsar Domiti. Aug. Germ. Cof. xiii.</i>	<i>Virtuti Augusti. S. C.</i> a soldier holding
<i>Cenf. Perp. p. p.</i> within a laurel crown.	in his right hand a dart, in his left a
	parazonium.
<i>Imp. Cæs. Domit. Aug. Germ. Cof. xi.</i>	A winged female figure, or Victory,
<i>Cenf. Perp. p. p.</i>	holding in her right hand a shield, <i>S. C.</i>
<i>Imp. Cæs. Nerva Trajan Aug. Germ. P. M.</i>	<i>T. R. Pot. Cof. iii. p. p. S. C.</i> a figure
a radiated head.	sitting with a staff, between two cornucopias.
<i>D. N. Gratianus P. f. Aug.</i> bright silver.	<i>Virtus Romanorum.</i>
<i>Imp. Cæs. Carausius P. M.</i>	<i>Pax Aug.</i> a female figure with an olive
	branch.
<i>Crispina Augusta.</i>	A sitting figure, in her right hand she
	holds a patera to a serpent ascending
	from an altar.
<i>Imp. Cæs. Alechus P. f. Aug.</i> a radiated head.	<i>Virtus Augusti. Q. C. Navis.</i>
<i>D. N. Magnentius P. f. Aug.</i> a naked	<i>Salus D. N. Aug. &amp; Cæs.</i> a monogram of
head.	the name of Christ, <i>I. M. B.</i> in a
	cross with Alpha and Omega.
<i>Imp. C. M. Posthumus P. f. Aug.</i>	<i>Victor. Aug.</i>
<i>Imp. Cæs. Posthumus P. f. Aug.</i>	A figure of <i>Æsculapius</i> with a serpent.

*Imp.*



## FACE OF OBVERSE.

*Imp. Cæs. Vespasian. Aug. Cof. viii. p. p.*

*Imp. Antonin. Aug. Pius, p. p. Tr. p. p.*  
*Cof. iiii. head crowned with laurel.*

*Magnentius Nob. Cæs. a naked head.*

*Constantius, Carausius:* several of them  
 with their inscriptions worn out.

*Valentinianus:* several of them.

*Imp. Nerva Cæs. Aug. P. M. T R. P.*  
*Cof. iii. p. p.*

*Imp. Claud. August.*

*Urbs Roma,* a head with a helmet:  
 several of them.

*Marcus Aurel. Antonin. Aug.*

*Antoninus Aug. Pius, p. p.*

*T. R. Pot. Cof. iii. S. C.*

*Constantinus, Gratianus, Constantius,* and many other coins of various sizes.

## REVERSE.

*S. C.* an eagle with his wings expanded  
 sitting on a globe.

*Λ* standing figure, holds out a patera  
 to a serpent rising from an altar.

*Victor. D. D. N. N. Aug. & Cæs.* two  
 Victories sustaining a globe, on which  
 is *Vol. v. Mult. x.*

*Securitas Reipublicæ.*

*Fortuna Augusti.*

A wolf suckling two infants.

A Mars marching.

The following were dug up at Clifton near the camp, in digging the foundation of the houses then built there, in the year 1784.

*Dom. Noster Constantius Aug.*

*Felicitas Reipublicæ,* a standing figure holding in her right hand a small figure of Victory, in the left a dart.

*D. N. Valentinianus Aug.*

*Constantius Aug. small.*

*Constantius Nobis Cæsar.*

*Victoria Aug.* two winged figures.

*Gloria Exercitus:* two soldiers with spears and shields; in the middle, two military standards, with a type M. R. B. T.

*Dom. Noster Constantius Aug.*

*Constantinus Pius Aug.*

An armed figure: — *fides Exercitus.*

The Emperor in a chariot drawn with four horses, with inscription, *Soli invicto Comiti.*

Besides these, a great many more were found by the workmen, and embezzled and sold to private gentlemen. A few Saxon coins, silver, were also discovered, of Æthelred, with *Rex Angl.*; and these with the others are now in my possession.

These





These camps at Henbury, or Blaze-hill, and Almondsbury, look directly towards the greater works of Abone at Rownham and Clifton-hill, and form one grand chain of fortification, with the Severn in its front; and signals of an approaching enemy might be communicated to either from a great distance. Blaze-hill, separated as if by art from the down adjacent called Kingweston-hill, commands a full prospect of the Avon and Severn, and a distant view of Venta Silurum, Isea or Caerleon, as well as of all the Roman stations nearer at hand, and was the most defensible post next to that at Clifton and Rownham-hills, in the neighbourhood of Bristol, that Ostorius and the Romans had.

Bishop Stillingfleet says, p. 510, that it was the Roman custom to place their garrisons on rivers, as a security of their frontiers against the enemy, which was the occasion of towns being built there, called by them *Burgi*, i. e. *limitum castella*, as Veignier observes, "castles on the borders:" so that Bristol seems to have been a *burgus* on the borders, called by its most ancient name *Caer Oder Nante Badon*, or *Avon*; a name that has puzzled all antiquaries to account for; and the authority for which is Leland and Lhuyd, though the reason for the name is not mentioned by Camden, or them. Amidst this uncertainty, if one might be allowed to guess, the city *Oder* in the vale of Bath, or on the Avon (the vale river), might not improbably have been written at first the city *Oster*, and by dropping the Sibilant letter *s*, not unusual among the Britons after the French, the name *Oder* (from *Oster*) was by them formed; and so Ostorius, the Roman *Proprator* under Claudius, may have dignified our city with his name: and *Aust*-passage over the Severn is in *Doomsday-book* called *Austre Clive*, retaining still the name of Ostorius in its sound without the Latin termination; a proof of that General's having acted much in these parts.

The town, as well as the camps near it, could not but come under the *Proprator's* government, as it fell thus within his circuit and view, and might with them be included in their station *Abone*, though assuming afterwards another name: the new modelling it since and the fresh foundations and enlargements have left us few marks of its ancient state, which was so much altered, as was its name afterwards by the Saxons.

But to be a little more particular on these vestiges the Romans have left nigh Bristol, their camps here deserve a description at large.

The Britons no doubt on the first invasion of the Romans did at their leisure and on pressing occasions prepare many strong places of retreat for their wives, children, flocks and herds, &c. making every vigorous struggle for their defence, and fortifying at intervals all the heights for places of refuge. These  
afterwards



afterwards being seized by the Romans, were occupied and enlarged, and greatly improved by them; the Britons having scarce ingenuity enough to erect such camps at the time, the grand remains of which are now to be seen. Hence however they still retained the British name Abone, hence we see British coins and some Saxon (as they afterwards occupied them) found together with the Roman on some odd shaped camps on hills, which before most probably were British; (as it is well observed by the ingenious Dr. Nash, in the history of Worcestershire): but the politic Romans more skilled in the military arts left no advantageous post unoccupied or unimproved.

As they prosecuted their conquests through the island, they established forts at the most convenient places for their greater security; some for the immediate occasion only, whilst others were erected into stationary camps, especially on the banks of rivers, with a view of better maintaining their conquests and settlements, and of uniting and readily communicating by such a chain of forts with their countrymen. No sooner were the British towns subject to their arms, but they surrounded them with forts and with camps: *Civitates-Præfidiis et Castellis circumdatae*, says Tacitus, c. xx. Ostorius about the year of Christ 50, extended his victorious arms upon the banks of the Severn: and secured that river and the Avon: but Julius Frontinus conquered the Silures and gave name to the *via Julia* or *Julia Strata* of *Necham*, between Bath and Caerwent. And as our camps at Clifton, Rownham, and Henbury lay in the direct road to the country of the Silures and Caerwent on the other side of the Severn, there is reason to believe this station was formed or greatly enlarged under Ostorius's government here. The commanding spot on Leigh-down and Clifton-hill, on the very summit of the rock on each side the river being chosen; they marked out the compass of the intended camps, allotted a convenient area in each, dug out the four fosses, rose the three ramparts or valla, and with the stones here ready at hand, constructed the high strong walls, heaping the stones together in a very irregular manner, and sloping it gradually to the top, from eighteen or twenty feet at the base to two or three at the crest, pouring their boiling mortar among the loosely piled stones; which being thin and fluid, insinuated itself into the many openings and hollows of the work, and by its strength bound together all the irregular pieces of stone into a compact wall, as appears evidently at this day. The shape of the hills confined them to a construction and form nearly circular. \* A deep and hollow valley or comb (D) alone separated the two camps on the

C

Leigh

\* Vegetius says, *Interdum Romanorum Castra* &c. i. e. sometimes the Roman camps were square, sometimes triangular, sometimes half round, as the nature and necessity of the ground required.



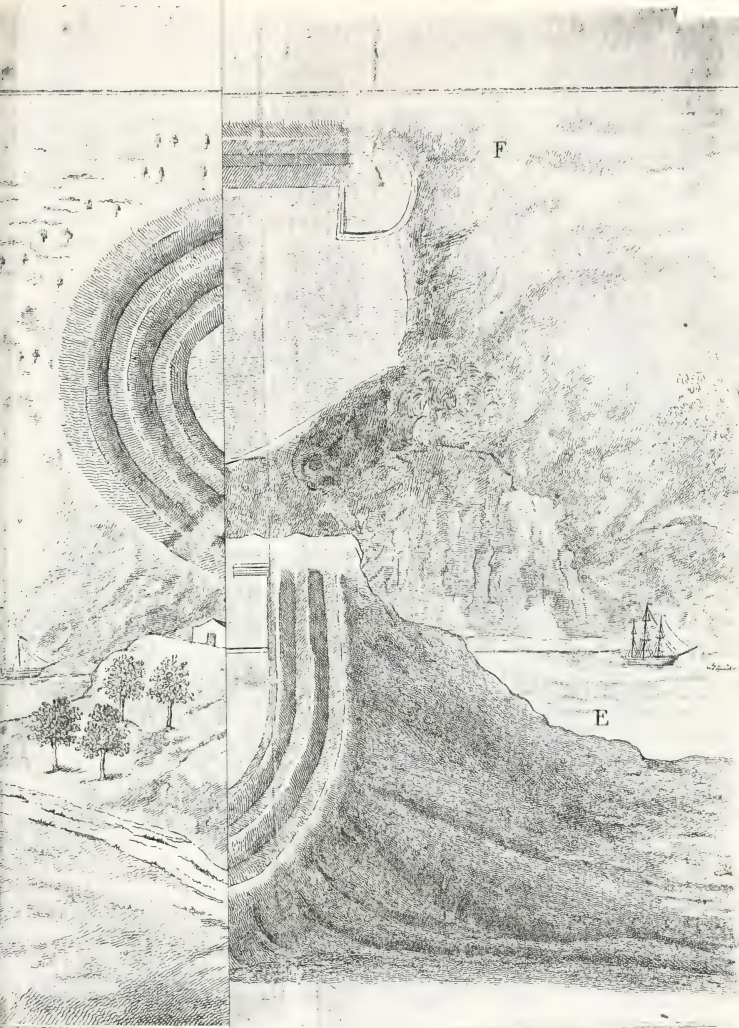
Leigh-side, and served as a passage down to the river, for each to get water for their use, where was a vadum (E) or communication over a shallow ford with their companions at Clifton camp (A); by which they had the command of both sides of the Avon. There are two entrances into this camp at Rounham hill called in old writings \* Bowre or Bower-walls, (B) perhaps Burgh or Borough-walls i. e. of the fort or *bürgus*, one in front, the *porta prætoria*, the other at the side the *porta sinistra*, the back part and right side of it joining the very edge of the precipice next the Avon, the *porta decumana* and the *dextra* had no place here. At Stokeleigh-camp (C) on the other side the deep comb may be traced two openings or gate ways; and on the right side appear the ruins of the *prætorium* (F) at this day; the northern extremity of the area and rudera of the building shewing it to have been round, encircled with a trench, and situated at the very angle of the two concurrent precipices, a proper and secure place for the citadel of the garrison; if it were not the *prætorium*, which is sometimes placed on one side on the lofty margin of rivers, it might be a *facellum* or sacred armoury for laying up the *vexilla* or ensigns of the several cohorts which had the *Aquilæ simulacra deorum & Imagines principum* upon them, and were accounted sacred by the Roman soldiers; the place being dedicated it is likely to *Mars signifer* or *Mars ultor*, not unlikely *Arthur's oven* in Gordon's *itinerarium septentrionale*.

The tremendous height on the rocks on which these camps were formed gave the Romans a vast advantage of descrying any enemy at a distance by land, or any invasion by sea, the whole country around and the Severn being here open to their view. And a fire from this lofty site served as a beacon to alarm all at their distant camps, at Henbury, Amesbury and parts adjacent.

The importance of their station here is sufficiently proved by the high and strong walls, treble ditches and fences with which they are secured. Art and nature joined to render it a most impregnable fortress, secured on one side by the lofty rock and precipice, a deep comb, the river below with a fort on the other side opposite the comb, and on the other by lofty strong walls, three deep ditches one within the other. Their situation answered every purpose and advantage for a defence-post, for here they enjoyed the privilege of using their balistæ and catapultæ, their only missive weapons for throwing huge stones with the greatest force from these heights, which must fall with the greater weight and effect; here the land itself was more defensible and tenible; here they

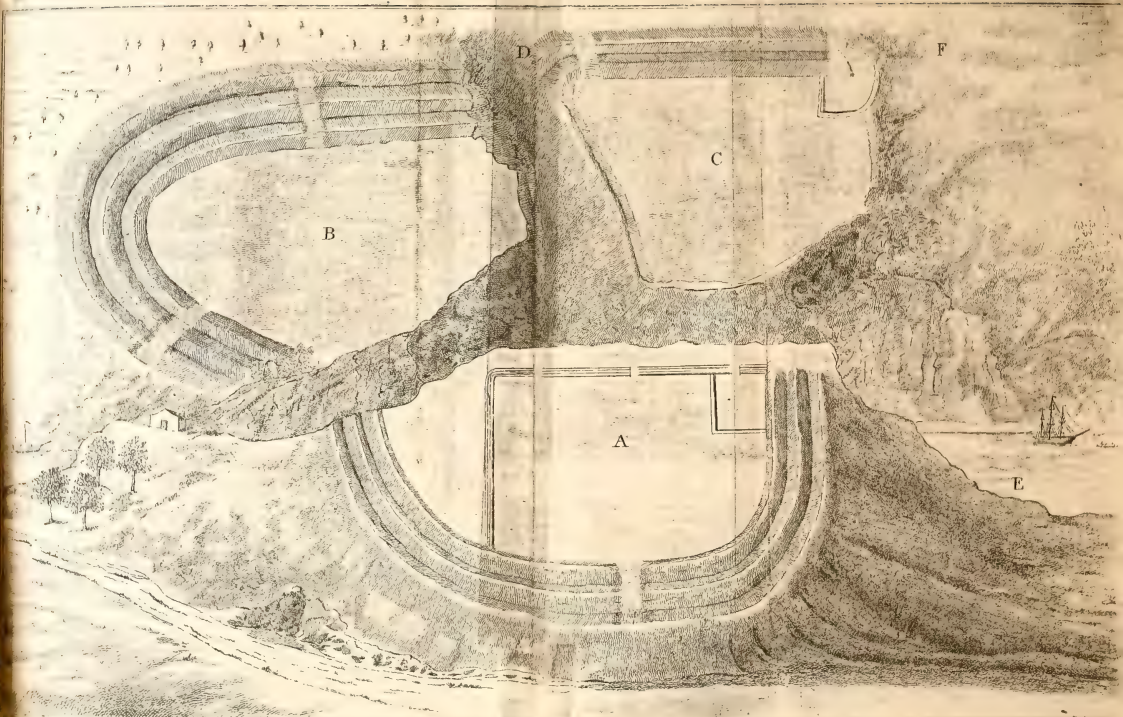
\* In *Bower latere videtur Bûrgus Iter. Tho. Gale p. 61.* The vale under and in view of this camp is called Borough-Ashton to this day. The word chester or burgh, says Horsely, gives us some help in fixing a Roman station.











*Roman Camps on the River Avon above the Bristol Hotwells.*



they had a full view of their enemy and an army, vessels or fleets at a distance, when meditating an attack; here by being on the narrow arm of a large navigable river, and its lowest position towards the Severn and sea, they could cut off all navigation by an enemy and keep open a free and effectual communication with their friends across Kingroad to Caerwent, their next station, and by the camps being double and on opposite sides and facing each other, they commanded two sides of a fine country, and could from at least one of them annoy any vessels or boats passing under them or near the banks of the river, and if in the middle of the stream at full tide they could easily reach them by a double attack, and discharge of their missives from each side of the river; here lastly they had a free use of water to drink &c. and at Sea-mills a good and sufficient strand for buildings, &c.

From these two camps Bower-walls (B) and Stokeleigh (C) on Leigh down, a *praetentura* or fence against any inroad or attack upon their lines is to be traced, the ranges of stone appearing still for some miles, joining in one from each camp at the top of the comb, then proceeding in a nearly straight direction toward Fayland. At every opening towards the vales and at every eminence where a distant prospect of the country around and of the river afforded an opportunity of descrying an approaching enemy, there circular watch-towers were raised, there the ruins of walls crossing the fence and outworks for garrisons, &c. still appear; the stones ranging in that manner loose above ground at this day. This fence may be traced all the way westward by the broad high stony bank for many miles skirting the hill, fronting the south and extending towards Clevedon and Walton, \* where are now traces of camps marked out near the Severn, which seems to have been its bounds; there is a large camp now compleat called Cadbury, which is circular with a double foss and high aggera, and under it near Tickenham, Roman coins have been dug, many of which were in possession of the late Sir Abraham Elton of Clevedon, Bart. also three urns of Roman coins, some of Constantine and others of different ages were dug up in Nailsea and Ken-moor not far from the camp, † at a place called Nailsea-wall, which divides Ken-moor

C 2

and

\* Gual is a rampart, from thence is formed Wall, Bal. Val. in the name of towns, as Walton, a rampart town or place.

† These coins are many of them now in the possession of Mrs. Hinkes of Nailsea, and a far greater quantity to the amount of several hundred were given to the late Sir J. Smith of Ashton-Court, by Mr. Chatterton, father of that Thomas Chatterton, who has occasioned such disputes relative to some ancient poems published under the name of T. Rowley, said by him to be copied from some manuscript originals once in his father's possession. Sir John Hugh Smith Bart.



and Nailsea-moor. There are vestiges also of a circular castrum on the brow of a hill opposite Nash-house, and near Fayland Inn, about seventy feet diameter a castellet, and about three quarters of a mile farther eastward is a square fort or exploratory turret about seventy feet square. These were fortresses or chesters all garrisoned, attendant on the principal station of Clifton and Abone, and the old roads from the camps on Leigh-down may be still traced through an orchard at the village of Leigh, and through Leigh-wood down to the river Avon at Sea-mills; on the Banks of which was the Roman summer station, occupying the heights on both sides the Avon down to Sea-mills, from whence the whole with great propriety was called Abone:—a station which for security, by having a view and command of the country and of the rivers Avon and Severn, could no where be chosen more properly by this military and politic people. And by erecting other camps at Henbury, Almonsbury, &c. they completely fortified the Severn and Avon, agreeable to Tacitus's description; who, lib. xii. Ann. says, “the General Ostorius prepares to disarm the suspected Britons, and to keep or comprehend the rivers Avon\* and Severn fenced with camps.” Baxter says, in Gloss. “Antona Tacitor dicitur flumen Abona quod aquas calidas seu Badixam præterfluit etiam si plurima fuerunt per universam Britanniam etsi minoris notæ.”

Thus situated, the Romans lived in garrison here in summer, and in winter chiefly under the hills, for a great extent of country. They were secured from any invasion from the Britons on the South side by their camps and fences on the hills, with the river Severn in the front, the banks of the Avon on both sides, and a fruitful vale in their possession, guarded by little agrarian camps. Here they had a ready supply of water, food for their cattle, and corn for themselves. A stone with a hole in the middle, a little handmill-stone with which they used to grind their corn is still preserved, found at Stokeleigh camp; and the hilt of an old sword was found there. As this was the direct road to Caerwent from the Aquæ Solis or Bath, so doubtless there must have been a great and frequent communication across the river Severn at this place with the station at Caerwent, after the conquest of the Silures, &c. by Ostorius. It appears, that the

hath many of these coins at present, and has been so obliging as to communicate several to the Author of this History, and is a living witness of Chatterton the father's speaking about them, and saying that they were found near Ken-moor; a proof of his having some taste for antiquities.

\* *Aufonam* Authore *Camdeno*.—In British language Avon is frequently contracted into *Aun*, *An*, or *Un*, as is observed by the Rev. Mr. Whitaker, in his elegant History of Manchester: so that it is not improbable that the Romans formed *Antonam* from Avon. Horsely calls *Antonam* the Avon; and p. 33, says, “Ostorius we find with his army upon the rivers Severn and Avon, and hereabouts the body of his army, for the most part, seems to have lain.”



the British towns were all connected with, or situated nigh, the Roman stations, as before observed, and antiquaries have been critically nice in pointing out their connection and situation; except those towns which were formed into colonies from the beginning, and therefore no camps attendant on them.

Under the hill of Clifton, nigh to their station Abone, lay Caer Oder nant Avon, (Caer Brito,) or Bristol, not a mile East from and just under the Roman camps. And Horsely observes, p. 464, "a Roman station may be at a mile or two distance, and yet the town may have arisen out of its ruins." Lipsius, in his Commentary on Polibius, lib. v. p. 9, where he is treating of the Roman camps, says, "the winter camps were more accurately, and with greater works constructed than the summer; the former being calculated for longer stay, and more necessities therefore required. These were stationary, and had more apartments and places belonging to them, as a place of arms, workshop, hospital, and the like: indeed they were often built more like towns, especially in the lower times of the empire, and where there were continual stations and *prætenturæ* or outworks against an enemy; such are on the banks of rivers, of the Danube, Rhine, and Euphrates:" and then he adds, "this is the origin and birth of many noble towns at this day,"—" *hæc ea origo & genitura nobilium aliquot hodie oppidorum.*" And an excellent observation it is, which leaves but little doubt of the city of Bristol, as well as many other cities, deriving their origin from the camps of this polished military people in their neighbourhood.

It is also well observed by Horsely, in his Essay on Antonine's Itinerary, in the *Britannia Romana*, p. 393, "how careful the Romans were to have their stations placed near a river, and there was no situation they seemed so fond of as a *lingula*, near the confluence of a larger and smaller river. If we run along a military way, we are almost sure to meet with a station whenever we meet with a river, at any reasonable distance from a preceding station."—"The places also mentioned in the Itinerary seem generally to be *castra stativa*, and there are generally rubbish, lime, and remains of buildings, in such stations as these. For besides the fort or citadel, garrisoned by Roman soldiers or auxiliaries, there was usually a town adjacent which in all likelihood was mostly inhabited by the Britons."

How well these observations of Mr. Horsely agree with the camps at Clifton and the city of Bristol in the neighbourhood, is very obvious to any one; nor is it an improbable conjecture, that the very name *Caer Brito*, (the British city,) might at first be given to it for distinction, as inhabited by the Britons, under the protection and government of the Romans in their station near it.

Although





Although these curious remains of antiquity are within a mile of Bristol, yet little or no attention has ever been paid to them hitherto by a busy and commercial people, wholly engaged in other pursuits; and what is more to be admired, they have been passed by unnoticed by Camden, Gale, and other writers. If the more obvious antiquities should be so carelessly overlooked, it is no wonder the secret whispers of tradition should be disregarded; though such traditions, however mixt with fable, do often lead to the discovery of truth. Of this kind is the following story, recorded by Sir Robert Atkins in his History of Gloucestershire.

“ Before the port of Bristol was settled in Frome river, there seems to have been a dispute, whether a place called Sea-mills was not as convenient a port as the other, several large and small ships having been built there. This occasioned the extravagant fabulous story concerning St. Vincent and Goram, whom the story makes to be mighty giants, and that they contended which way the rivers Avon and Frome should vent themselves into the Severn: if the port of Sea-mills had been judged more convenient, then Goram had prevailed, because his hermitage was at Westbury, on the side of the brook Trim, which runs to Sea-mills. But the port of Frome being thought more advantageous, therefore the miracle relates, that St. Vincent clave the rocks asunder, and so gave passage to the rivers, because those rocks derive their name from a chapel there, dedicated to that saint.”

This seems to take its rise from some reality, and may have truth for its foundation, though obscured by fable and superstition. The Roman coins, old foundations of walls, bricks, tiles, &c. dug up here, especially in making the great dock at Sea-mills, shew it to have been a place inhabited by that military people; having several camps (*castra æstiva*) or entrenched posts on the high hills of St. Vincent and the opposite rocks, at Henbury, and other places in the neighbourhood. The Romans in time having deserted their station of Abone, on the banks of the river Avon, and the port and harbour here in the river Trim, where their galleys for passing over by water to Caër went their next station lay; the port of Bristol, Caër Nante Avon, (the city in the vale of Avon river) flourished, and became a great city in its stead: Goram, the strong champion of the river Trim, (or the strong warlike Romans there) no longer keeping that station; and St. Vincent (or the civilized, religious, converted Britons under his patronage) settling the port of Bristol at the more convenient conflux of the two rivers, the Avon and the Frome; which, in those times, could not but be attributed to the interposition of a saint, who had a chapel and hermitage on the summit of Clifton rock, (of  
which



which see before William of Worcester, p. 13.) But it would add greatly to our supposition of the Abone of the Romans being at this place, if it should appear upon examination that the Roman road, betwixt Aquæ Solis (Bath) and their next station Venta Silurum (Caerwent), lay in this direction: and that the distances of the miles betwixt the two stations should exactly answer, both in Antonine's Itinerary and in Richard of Cirencester. This would be a great confirmation of the truth, worthy of the nicest enquiry, especially as that Iter xiv. of Antonine has been so much disputed:—*Et adhuc sub judice Lis est.*

Dr. Stukely, in his Itin. Curios. p. 144, v. 1, gives the fourteenth Iter of Antonine thus: Ab Ifca ad Callevam M. P. c. iii. fic.

<i>Ifca Leg.</i>	11 Aug.	- - -	Caerleon.
<i>Venta Silurum,</i>	- - -	-	Caerwent, - ix M. P.
<i>Trajæctus,</i>	- - -	-	Oldbury, - ix M. P.
<i>Abone,</i>	- - -	-	Henbury, - ix.
<i>Aquæ Solis,</i>	- - -	-	Bath, - vi.
<i>Verlucio,</i>	- - -	-	Hedington, xx.
<i>Cunetio,</i>	.. - - -	-	Marlborough, x.
<i>Spinæ,</i>	- - -	-	Newbury, xv.
<i>Vindomia,</i>	- - -	-	Silchester, - x.
<i>Calleva Atrebatum,</i>	- - -	-	Farnham, - xv.

and is of opinion with Dr. Gale, that Trajæctus and Abone are transposed. It is very remarkable he makes Abone to be Henbury, which indeed was one of the camps dependent on their station of Abone.—Where in the Itinerary of Antonine and Richard of Cirencester, the rivers ad Abone, ad Sabrinam, are mentioned; the Romans might have only strong camps by those rivers, and before the towns and cities were fully built; which were afterwards raised by the Britons near those camps, which served as inns and defensible posts to the Romans in their journeys across the rivers to their other cities or stations, as observed by the judicious Doctor, in his observations on Richard of Cirencester. It is mentioned in Somner on forts and posts (p. 38.) in Kent, that the numerals in Antonine are often wrong, and not to be relied on: “there is not much heed (says he) to be given to the distances there, being (as some have observed) often mistaken;” therefore if the beginning and end of the Iter be well known and set right, the intermediate places may be easily made out by camps, coins found, or Roman remains, as well as by rivers, roads, and situation. But the Doctor, in his account of Richard of Cirencester, makes some alterations in the names, and interprets the eleventh Iter of

Richard



Richard thus.—From Aquæ Solis, Bath, by the Julian-street to Menapia: thus in Richard, Iter xi. Ab aquis per viam Julian Menapiam usque Sic.

Ad Abonam M. P. vi. Sabrinam vi. unde Trajectu intras in Britanniam secundam et stationem Trajectus M. P. iii. Venta Silurum ix. ubi fuit Aaron Martyr; Ifca Silurum ix. Tibiæ Amni M. P. vii. Bovio xx. Nido xv. Leucario xv. ad Vigeffimum xx. ad Menapiam xix. ab hac urbe per triginta M. P. Navigas in Hyberniam. To which Dr. Stukely assigns the following names.

<i>Aq. Solis,</i>	- - - -	Bath.
<i>Ad Alone for Abone,</i>	vi. -	Olland, near Kainsham, Gloucestershire.
<i>Ad Sabrinam,</i>	- - vi. -	Aust upon Severn.
<i>Statio Trajectus,</i>	- iii. -	Tydenham or Chepstow.
<i>Venta Silurum,</i>	} - ix. -	Caerwent, Monmouthshire.
<i>Stipendiaria,</i>		
<i>Ifca Silurum,</i>	} - ix. -	Caerleon.
<i>Colon. leg. Aug.</i>		
<i>Tibia Amnis,</i>	- - vii. -	Caerdiff.
<i>Bovium,</i>	- - - xx. -	Cowbridge, Glamorganshire.
<i>Nidum,</i>	- - - xv. -	Neath.
<i>Leucarium,</i>	- - - xv. -	Lloghor.
<i>Ad Vigeffimum</i>	} - xx. -	Narboth castle.
<i>Lapidem,</i>		
<i>Menapa,</i>	- - - xix. -	St. David's.

To make this agree with Antonine's Iter and it proves Abone in that is transposed and should be placed before Trajectus, I would interpret it thus

<i>Aq. Solis,</i>	- - - -	Bath.
<i>Ad Abone,</i>	- - vi. -	To the station at Clifton on the river Avon.
<i>Ad Sabrinam,</i>	- vi. -	The Severn.
<i>Trajectus,</i>	- - iii. -	Portishead camp on the point.
<i>Statio Trajectus,</i>	- - -	Sudbrook square camp the place of landing on the other side in going to

*Venta Silurum* - ix. - Caerwent.

Here the six miles at Abone is demonstrably a wrong numeral; it should be xi. which exactly make the miles the same as in Antonine.

The distance from Bath through Hanham to the station at Clifton, may be reckoned about eleven or twelve computed miles: and the other intermediate distances agreeing with each other, we need not be too curious about the names of the stations in Richard's time, as they might alter; but both the distances



distances and stations agree in bringing the road through or near to Bristol, in fixing one at Abone next to it, and proceeding to one common Trajectus and so to Caerwent: whether any likelier places proved to be Roman by so many camps coins and other antiquities can be found, must now be submitted to the judgment of every candid enquirer. Gale, Horsely and Stukely take us to Oldbury on the Severn as the only Trajectus, quite a circuitous road in no respect answering to the order of the places, still less to the distances, nor to the course of the country, to which the road tends. There may be errors in the numerals, which appear too clearly, neither is exactness pretended; but we cannot err as to the right road pointed out in both Itineraries, and as to the beginning and end of the Iter, which are plain enough. Leland indeed says in Collect. Tam corruptum est &c. "This Itinerary of Antonine or whose ever it be, is so corrupt, as to require some Apollo to decypher it, for many names are misspelt, the order of the places and numbers inverted and vary in different copies, being set out of their places." This granted, it must breed strange confusion; but if we are certain as to the beginning and end of an Iter, whatever differences there may be in the number of miles or order of the places, we cannot err much in pursuing the direct road, open and uninterrupted as it is with hills; and this line of road can no where be so proper and eligible as through the Roman camp at Bristol and their station there in their passage over to Caerwent. To suppose with Camden and others, that Trajectus meant Oldbury, or Newenham with Baxter, and Abone to be Alvington or Avington, can have little shew of probability. It contradicts the order of places so much, it does not in any degree coincide with the distances set against each, and makes such unreasonable allowances in the computation as leaves us in the wildest uncertainty: absolute certainty and demonstration must not be insisted on; but it may be left to every impartial enquirer, whether in general those are not most probably the real places designed in the Itineraries above, where the distances are in the nearest conformity with those set down; where Roman stations can be proved to have existed, even now to be traced by old encampments and coins found therein, and where the straightest road to the place lies. But to go from Bath to Oldbury in Gloucestershire, or from Abone at Clifton thither and then over the Severn to Beachly as the Trajectus, and so over the Wye to Caerwent, would be such a diversion of the road as is scarce credible.

The fourteenth Iter of Antonine may be explained thus, Iter alio itinere ab Isca callevam usque m. p. C. iiii.





<i>Ab Ifca,</i>	- - - - -	Carleon.
<i>Venta Silurum,</i>	M. P. ix. - - - -	Caerwent.
<i>Trajectus,</i>	transposed for Abone, M. P. ix.	The passage over the water, or to Portishead.
<i>Abone</i>	M. P. ix. - - - - -	The station and camps at Clifton.
<i>Aq. Solis,</i>	M. P. vi. - - - - -	Bath xi.
<i>Verlucione,</i>	M. P. xv. - - - - -	Lacock, where and at Leckham, Naish Hill and Notton, coins have often been found.
<i>Cunetione,</i>	M. P. xx. - - - - -	Marlborough on the Kennet.
<i>Spinis,</i>	M. P. xv. - - - - -	Speen.
<i>Calleva,</i>	M. P. xv. - - - - -	Silchester or Wallingford.

The sum total prefixed is one hundred and three miles, but the particulars amount to but ninety eight, which proves the numbers to be erroneous. If eleven be the numeral at *Aq. Solis*, it would make up the one hundred and three miles of the *Iter*, and it would come very near to the true distance betwixt Bath and Abone at the Clifton camp, and the nine miles over the Severn from Caerwent would be as near the truth as can be expected.

Roger Gale, who communicated to Mr. Hearn an account of the four Roman Ways, has in addition to that letter published in *Leland's Collectanea*, p. 275, v. 6. 2 ed. some observations concerning the Western Avon—and says there, “that beneath Gloucester we have but one station, *Trajectus*, at “Oldbury;”—but quære’s, “whether the old names, or situation of their “stations on the Western Avon are yet retrieved by us, which I suspect must “be left to time, and the observations of those, who are better acquainted with “that country than I am, to determine.”—This is no less candidly than judiciously remarked; for *Trajectus* at Oldbury has been ever looked upon as the only Roman station here by Cambden, &c. yet it now comes out, that the Romans in their journies into Wales or Caerwent, might and did fix other stations, particularly this at Abone and Clifton, on the banks of the Avon, near which was the *Trajectus* in a strait road from Bath or *Aquæ Solis*, to Caerwent, answering nearly as we see to the m. p. or miles set against each in Antonine’s Itinerary, which no other *Trajectus* does.—Oland, or Oldland, near Hanham, though no traces there ascertain it, has been conjectured by some to be one, about nine miles from Bath; but from Abone, Sea-Mills or Portishead, the *Trajectus* across the Severn about nine miles, is direct to Caerwent:—The other Roman way from Bath to Oldbury, being over the hilly ground of Landf-down passing near Wick, (*Vicus*) where Roman relicks were found just under the



the hill by R. Haynes, Esq;—so by Pucklechurch to Bury-hill, on the Fromm; whence the road was to Almonsbury, and to Aust or Oldbury, and over the Severn to Lydney, where is a great camp, (delineated in Archæol. v. 5.) near the borders of that river; and so into Herefordshire, &c.

It appears hence the Romans had more than one Trajectus across the Severn; but to Caerwent they could have none so convenient and direct as this at Abone near Bristol:—if they crossed at Aust for that station strait to the other side to Beachly, or to Tidenham on the same shore, they must have had a second trouble to ferry over another dangerous and rapid river the Wye, where Chepstow Bridge now stands, or must have sailed down the Severn from Aust some way till they came on a line with Caerwent, many miles out of their direct course.

Horsely, p. 469, says, “the military way running Eastward from Caerwent is large and remarkable: I observed it to leave the high way to Chepstow, and inclining to the South to bend its course towards the Severn, but I had not opportunity to trace it to the side of the river.—The name Old Passage may not have so distant a retrospect as the Roman Trajectus, but yet I conclude from the course of the military way which I observed myself, that the Roman passage has been below the mouth of the Wye, and I scarce think the landing place on the South side can be near so high as Oldbury, though this is generally supposed; and for this reason, Oldbury has got the name of Trajectus, a transposition of names being now more generally admitted.”—Had Mr. Horsely continued his rout on the military way to the bank of the Severn, he would then have found the grand camp of Sudbrook to be the station, where they crossed the Severn to Abone the other side near Bristol.

It is worthy of observation, that the little river Throggy, on the bank of which lies the great square camp Sudbrook, opens here into the Severn, in a direction almost opposite to the Bristol Avon on the other side, as appears on viewing it across Kingroad, Penpoll near Shirehampton rising to the view very distinct; the mouth of the Throggy forms still a kind of pill for vessels, and the river itself, though now small and filled up, was evidently once navigable up to the city of Caerwent; the bed of the river still appearing open, broad, and deep in many places, so that the communication with the Aquæ Solis or Bath and the Abone near Bristol and Caerwent, was direct, free and well guarded; and doubtless such a well peopled city as Caerwent evidently was, the seat of Roman arts and arms, grandeur and luxury, held great correspondence across the Severn with the other stations and commercial intercourse with all the country they possessed.—In the year 1777, a tessellated pavement



was discovered in an orchard at Caerwent, about 21 feet long by 18 broad, made by small square pieces of stone about half an inch or more square, inlaid in an elegant form in waving lines and twisted chainlike shapes, with a very large rose in the center of the floor, surrounded with a circle charged with ten smaller roses, painted with four colours, red, yellow, white, and blue; the side-wall was plaistered smooth and painted red. It seems to have been the state room or tent of the Prefect of the *Legio secunda Aug.* an inscription on a stone dug up here was, "*Julia Esseunda vixit annos xxxv.*"

Upon the Romans leaving their station here and at Caerwent and Caerleon, and upon their departure from the island of Britain, the cities and mansions on both sides the Severn, which grew up and flourished in peace under their strict discipline and government, became in a state of confusion, being terribly harried by the intestine divisions of the Britons themselves, and afterwards by foreigners called in to their aid. Caerwent and Caerleon encompassed with brick-walls, and celebrated for their lofty palaces and temples, Roman baths, tessellated pavements, hypocausta and theaters, as well as a vast concourse of merchants and learned men, fell under the general calamity: the first dwindling into a place of no note but for the coins and Roman bricks and inscriptions still dug up there, the latter lying buried in its ruins, and *ipsæ periere ruine*;—now it cannot be supposed the petty towns in their neighbourhood, Newport and Chepstow, which rose on their ruins, (being also as much, if not more exposed,) should receive and afford a secure retreat and asylum to the numerous inhabitants, as well merchants as others, of these populous cities, which must have had then the greatest commerce and free trade of any in the West of England, to supply the conveniences and luxuries of such a multitude of polished citizens;—no; they would naturally apply to places and stations of greater safety and well adapted to trade; and where they could enjoy, uninterrupted, a free navigation and security of commerce. It may therefore be believed, and with the greatest probability if not certainty, that they immediately fled from their disturbed condition at Caerleon and Caerwent, and transported themselves directly across the Severn at Kingroad, to Bristol, then a city also under the protection of the Romans at Clifton and Leigh in its neighbourhood; and the well-known station of the Romans here, and usual intercourse across the Severn, pointed out to them the propriety of their choice, and the security they should enjoy here unmolested.

After they had once seated themselves here, and the Romans had left their fortified station at Clifton, the Britons confining on the Severn and in its neighbourhood soon flocked hither and increased the establishment of the city:—

The



The colonies the Romans had at the camps of Henbury, Almondsbury, Old Abby, Sodbury, Hinton-Durham, and other adjacent places, supplied many inhabitants that did not follow the Romans, but contributed to the speedy advance and population of the city. Bristol is justly reputed to be a secure place in times of tumult and popular commotions, which we know from history to have been the case of Britain when the Romans left it, as appears from their complaints sent to Rome afterwards, of which Gildas gives a most pathetic and lamentable account.

Where then could the merchant, the tradesman, the rich or the poor mechanic, find a place of greater safety in such times than Bristol, not liable to be suddenly surpris'd and attacked, the Avon being its guard on the Somerset side, and the From winding round it formed it into an island, a very natural and most effectual defence; and the Severn in some respects, with its several fortresses and entrenched posts, formed a distant defence and barrier on the North and West side; and at the same time by its free communication by water with other places and the sea, was the best adapted for a convenient habitation and enjoying all the advantages of commerce, and thereby a quick supply of every necessary of life.

Besides what has been advanced of the Roman camps and stations here, under which the city of Bristol rose and flourished, it must be added, that it is highly probable that military people occupied the very hills within the precincts of the city;—as experienced Generals they would possess themselves of all the heights near their principal stations—accordingly we find Roman coins have been dug out of the earth on St. Michael's-hill, within the city, by Thomas Tyndale, Esq; at the Fort, when he formed and walled in a large garden there. The coins were of Constantine, Constantius Gordian, and Tetricus;—and in the field behind the Montague Inn on Kingdown, in 1780, was found four feet deep, a coin of Constantine, with the following inscription, *Imp. C. Constantinus p. F. Aug.* a laureated head:—on the reverse, a figure of the sun, with *Soli Invicto Comiti*.

But both St. Michael's-hill and Brandon-hill have undergone such alterations by time, large fortifications and entrenched posts having been made there in later days, especially in the great rebellion 1641, that their surfaces have often taken a new form, and the appearance of the ancient entrenchments is lost; and every vestige of Roman antiquity must necessarily be destroyed and effaced, the coins found being now the only proofs of their having once occupied these hills.





As it was then from the Roman camps in its neighbourhood, and the road betwixt Bath and Caerwent passing this way, Bristol may be said to have deduced its first origin,\* the Britons living there under their protection and government. So from the downfall of those populous cities of Caerwent and Caerleon, upon the retreat of the Romans from Britain, it flourished and increased in a most rapid manner by a great accession of new inhabitants from across the Severn; who soon enlarged its commerce, and supplied those conveniences and luxuries, with which the numerous and polite inhabitants of those cities in Wales used to be supplied; and upon the coming of the Saxons, who afterwards occupied the strong camps and posts deserted by the Romans, (as Saxon coins dug up there also shew,)—Bristol we shall find soon became the grand seaport and mart of the West Saxon kingdom, agreeable to what Leland has said of it, “*Audla est a Saxonibus,*” —it was increased by the Saxons—who usually built on Roman foundations, and occupied places deserted by them.

If it should be farther asked, at what particular period of time it was founded? To answer this question with precision may not perhaps be in any one’s power, involved as it is in so much obscurity, and difficult from the remoteness of the time, it can only be said to have taken its rise, beyond doubt, from the Roman station Abone; growing up by degrees from it, and at last being blended with it, while the Romans used to pass the Severn to Caerwent;—rising within the century after the birth of Christ, and advancing in population, trade and grandeur from that time, keeping pace with the Romans, while here, and after their leaving the island, increasing by a vast accession of inhabitants from every quarter.

C H A P.

\* Though I suppose this to have been the first origin of the city of Bristol, it is not to be omitted, that there is a traditionary account mentioned also by Ross, Leland, and in William of Worcester’s manuscripts; and a manuscript by Ricaut, in the Chamber of Bristol, that Brennus founded Bristol;—but as the story of Brennus and Bellinus is not well authenticated, and there is little historical evidence for it, like the accounts of Jeffery of Monmouth, of Brute and his Trojans coming hither, deemed all equally fabulous, it will be needless to pursue the enquiry.



## C H A P. II.

*Of BRISTOL in the SAXON and NORMAN Times.*

HAVING investigated the origin and first rise of the city at the Roman-British period, I proceed next with the Saxon and Norman accounts.

A manuscript discourse on Bristol, which has the marks of great antiquity, said to be wrote by Turgot, a Saxon, in *Saxones Latyn*, must be acknowledged to be of great weight; and as the writer lived to give the following account of Bristol not long after the very time, in which Camden asserts Bristol to have first risen, it will be a full confutation of that eminent antiquarian. I shall add the same Turgot's "account of auncient coynes found at and near Bristowe, with the hystorie of the fyrst coynynge by the Saxounnes, also an account of monumental incriptions, said to be done from the Saxon ynto Englyshe by T. Rowlic." This Turgot is said to be a Bristol man, was prior of Durham, afterwards Bishop of St. Andrews in Scotland; he writ a history of Scotland, also chronicles of Durham; annals of his own time, and the life of K. Malcolm. It is said he wrote also a Saxon poem called, the Bloody Battle of Hastinges.

All the works of Turgot have never been published; especially the following curious account of Bristol, said in a very old manuscript to be translated by T. Rowlic out of Saxon into English, now in my possession. Turgot \* it appears was prior of Durham in 1088, having succeeded his preceptor Aldwin who died 1087 in that priory, and was consecrated Bishop of St. Andrews in 1108, and was buried at Durham seven years after 1115.

" Sect. II. of Turgoteus. — Strange as it maie seem that there were Walles to Radelesfe, yet fulle true ytte is beyng the Walles of Brightrycus pallace, & in owre daies remainethe there a finall piece neie Efelwynnes Towre. I conceive not it coulde be square, tho Tradytion so saith: the Inhabiters wythyn the Walle had ryghte of Tolle on the Ryvers Severne & a part of Avon. Thus much of Radelesfe Walles. On whych passage of Turgot, T. Rowlic subjoins

\* Leland in Collectan V. ii. 542, 538, gives an account of Turgot (*quodam Clerico Turgoto*) taken out of a manuscript booke, of the Bishops of Lindisfarne.



subjoins the following Emendal or Note:—Hence myghte be the reasonne whie the Indabitors of Radcleste callyd much of the River Avon, Severne; becaufe formerlie reckoned in theyre Tollege with the Severne, as Inhabiter of Radcleste have I used Severne for Abona or Avon, & accounted Severne to reeche over anent Radcleste Strete.

“ Sect. III. of Turgotus. — Nowe to speake of Bryghtstowe, yttes Walles & Castelle beynge the fayrest buyldinge, of ytte I shalle speake fyrste. The pryncipale Streets meete in forme of a Crofs, & is a goode patterne for the Cityes of Chrystyannes. Brightrycus fyrst ybuylden the Walles in fashyon allmoste Square wythe four Gates — Ellè Gate, Baldwynnes or Leonardes Gate, Froome or the Water Gate and Nycholas or Wareburgha’s, so cleped from Wareburga of the House of Wulverus Konyng of Mercia (& here be ytte noted that Brightstowe was sometymes inne the hondes of the Mercyes sometye of the West Saxottes, tyll Bryghtricus walled ytte, ande fixede ytte for ever to hys). Thys Wareburga was baptyzed bye Saynte Warburgus, & had a Chyrche ybuilte to her by the Brystowans — Almost arounde the Walles was Watere & fowre Brydges or fordes. Elle forde, Santforde or Halleforde beynge where Tradition sayes Saynte Warburgus passyd; Frome Forde & Baldwynnes’s Forde, beynge where Tradytynne saies Sayente Baldwyne fleen the Danes that fled from Bultyngteatune. The Walles have suffred alteratyon synce Edward Sonne of Alfrydus Magnus A. D. DIVC-XV. \* ybuylden the the Walles & newly ybuylden the Castle — beeynge the goodlyeste of the five ybuilden on Abone Bankes & a greete checke to the Danes: he caused the Gate neare Baldwynnes forde to be callyde Baldwynes before Leonardes. The Castle thus ybuilden ytte was yeven in sure keepynge to Ella a Mercyan synce hee routted the Danes at Watchette wythe hys Brystowans: and at Wykewarre with hys owne Menne and those of Wykewarre, at Canyngan & Alluncengan † with his Brystowans. At the laste place he conquered: but Englande payde dearlie for the Battle, he dyed in Brystowe Castle of hys Woundes. He was the slaye of the Weste and the Guardyan of Gloucestre, whyche after hys Dethe was pyteoufflie sacked—hee gave Name to Ellingham ande Elecestre. Coernicus succedeis in the Castle, but was not so fortunate as hys predecessoure, affordynge ne Helpe to others, havynge Employmente enowe to keepe hys owne. In his days were Bathe & Gloucestre brente: the pagannes assayled Bristow ande some entrynge Coerne commandynge alle the fordes to be cutte, whereby all the Dacyans whyche entered were forslayne or drowned. Inne his daies and the reyn of Kynnge Aedelstan was twayne of Coiners in Bryghtstowe. From hym saie some came Corne-Street ‡ — he builden anew  
Wareburgas

\* 913. † So in the original. ‡ Called old Corn-street in antient writings I have seen.



Wareburgas Chyrche and added thereunto Houfen for preeftes. He was brave and dyd his beft agaynft the paganes. After hym was Harwarde, who was fleyn in Redeleft fyde fyghteynge againft the paganes, Whoe gotte ne honoure in fight lofynge three Capytaynes Magnus Hurra & Ofbraye & fleying the feeld — Then Smallaricus, Vincent & Adelwyn — then Egwyn, from whome the Street Egwynne Streete was ybuildenne. Likewyfe in his tyme was the greate Earthquake; manye houfen in Bryftowe fallene downe & the Fyre levyne enfyrede Radclef Strete — Shortely after on the vyolente enfeefynge of the Crowne bie Ethelrede, an Infurrectyon happened in Bryghtftowe whych Egwynne appeafed. After him Aylwardus, Adelbryghte, Amftuarde, Algarre, And thenne Leofwynne Sonne of Godwynne Erle of Kente. Upon the afcendynge of Edwarde Confeffour the Natyon was all turnyd French; ynne the nynthe Yeere of the reigne of Edwarde beeynge m. o. xxxxxx. Leofwynne bye thys Charter hadde Bryftowe.

Iche Edwarde Konynge, Yeuen Bryftoe Caftellynge

Unto the keepynge, Off Leofwynne de Godwynne

Of Clytoe Kyndlynge; Of Ballarde and Battell

Le Bartlowe \* for Cattayle

Alle that on the waiters flote, To take Brugbote :

Eke at ye Stowe of Wickwarre breme, And yttes Sylver Streeme

Toe take Havenychie, As Eldermanne of Iche

To hys owne Ufe, At his goode Thewes

Wytnefsowre Marke before Ralph Dunftan & Egwyn

Of owre reygne and Eafter Month Yeere & Daie nyne:

Thus had hee the Caftel; & hys fadre Broders, & the Cityfens of Bryghtftowe ande Nobilytye of Kente entered ynto a folemne League agaynft the Londoners, Who were almoſte alle frenchmenne, makynge the fayde League at Bryghtftowe. Inne M. L. 1. the menne of Dover & Kente beyng murdred by the Bullonyans, Godwynne & his Kentifhmen Harolde & the Weſſaxons came to Bryftoe to Leofwynne, Who receevd them kindly ynto hys Caſtelle & ſet forwarde wyth them to Glouceſter & after the appoyntment came agayne to Briſtowe but throughe treacheree the expedytyone myſſede: Whereupon Kyng Harolde & Leofwyne came wyth Swayne, Toſtye, Wolnothus & Gyrthe to Bryghftowe & Shypped for Hyberniam: ande nowe bee ytte noted that When Gryffithe Kyng of South wales & the Iriſh pyrates attack'd them Leofwynne ſtroke Galfride Kurke Capytaine to the grounde ande toke hym pryſoner leavyng his armie Where by the South wallians retyrd to the Coun-

E. . . . . try

\* Q. If Berklaw or Bartalaw — vid. Spelman.





try withe greete losse, Leofwyne entreated Kurke kyndlie & let hym departe to Hibernie Where upon he invited hym to Hybernie, Whither he went with 280 Brystowans."

Such is the account of our city said to be given by Turgotus. Whatever may be objected to the authenticity of this manuscript, the author can only say, it has the marks of being genuine, and is faithfully transcribed from the original parchment, not without great difficulty to decypher it, on account of the paleness of the ink and peculiarity of the character.

It is very certain, the Saxons, after the retreat of the Romans and consequent divisions and wars of the Britons, greatly increased the city both in extent of buildings and in population, and made it a place of greater commerce and resort of shipping than it had ever had in the Roman-British times. It lay more secure from Danish invasions by its inland situation, not to be approached but by a long and difficult navigation up the Bristol Channel; and this accounts for the little mention made of it by our historians, as not distinguished in the Danish wars: though they tell us, the Danes came as far as the Holmes, where they suffered a defeat and famine. Though some manuscripts insinuate, that this city did not escape their piracy and ravage.

The Saxons distinguished Bristol so early with their notice, that Edward, the son of Alfred, built a castle here for its defence; and Alfred, in the fifth year of his reign, is said, in Hollinghead, to have driven the Danes from Exeter to Dartmouth, where they took shipping, and dispersed others, "some of whom fled to Chippenham and some to Bristol." And in the *Chronologia vite Alfredi*, and in the Saxon Chronicle, we find the Danes spoiling all the country on the Severn, and making irruptions into various parts upon it; and there is no reason to believe Bristol to have wholly escaped.

An account at the end of Langtoft's Chronicle by Hearn, vol. ii. p. 465. says, "the Danes landed near Brent in Somersetshire, but were put to flight, a great number drowned and slain by King Alfred, and others escaped and fled to Woorle-hill, where they fortified themselves, &c." There is to be seen at this day on the said hill, a camp of wonderful strength, with many aggers; whether Danish, or not, deserves the attention of the curious.

There are many accounts of the Danes infesting Somersetshire, which about the year 900 was much exposed to their ravages, and greatly harassed by frequent invasions of them; their ships came up the Bristol Channel, and making descents on the open and defenceless towns, spread terror and desolation wherever they came. In the year 878 they landed near Biddeford with thirty-three sail of ships, and wasted the country with fire and sword; but they were overcome



overcome by the victorious Alfred, their captain Hubba and 1200 men slain, whom they buried on the shore near their ships, and the place is since called Hubbastone. "In the 915, (says Stow) a great navy of Danes sailed about the West Country, and landed in divers places, taking great preys, and went to their ships again. The King Edward senior, (the son of Alfred) for strengthening the country, made a castle at the mouth of the Avon."—That they certainly infested this country as far as Bristol Avon, appears from the Saxon Chronicle. "And the Cyninge hæfde funden wyth him mon sat with on suth-healfe Sæfrenn-muthan westan from Wealum East oth Afanc-muthan, &c." i. e. "In the year 918 King Edward thought fit to dispose his army at the South part of the mouth of the Severn, from the West of Wales towards the East to the mouth of the Avon, that they might not dare to infest any where that part of his land: nevertheless they withdrew themselves privily by night at two times, once in the eastern part and at Watchet, and another time at Porlock. But they were conquered both times, that few remained but those only who swam to their ships. Then they set down at the isle of Bradanrelic, (i. e. the Flat Holmes,) till they were in great want of provisions, and many perished with hunger." *Henry of Huntingdon, l. v. 11° Edwardi senioris.* "The King caused the shores of the Severn, on the South part from Wales to the Avon, to be guarded, &c." and "that it was at the island of Stepen, or Steep Holmes, they suffered." Both are not far distant from each other in the Bristol Channel below Kingroad, where the Bristol ships lie at anchor.

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The Anglo-Saxon kings and earls of Gloucester, the then lords or thanes of this country, long held this city under their protection and government, and received great advantages from the rents and profits of the town. Aylward Maew, or Sneaw, was lord of it before the Conquest, mentioned in Leland's Itinerary. He was a Saxon nobleman of the greatest rank and fortune, descended from Edward senior, (the builder of the castle, from whom he seems to have held Bristol by gift or inheritance.) About the year 900 he is said to be *vir in armis strenuus*, (Lel. vol. vi. p. 82.) a man of great prowess, and "Lorde of Brightestowe, and founder of the monastery of Cranbourne." His son Algar, with his wife Algiva, succeeded to the honour of Gloucester and lordship of Bristol by right of inheritance; and Brietricus, the son of Algar, after them. He, being a very rich man, resided much at Bristol, and distinguished it greatly.

Brietric, or Brightick, had great possessions, is called in Leland *viro praeclari*; he translated the body of King Ethelbert, buried privately on the banks



of the river Lugg, to Hereford. There is an Earl Briðrick mentioned in Leland's Collect. vol. i. p. 349, the brother of Edward Streona Duke of Mercia. I have in a manuscript a note of the genealogy of Earl Briðtric, from Briðtric King of the West Saxons. Little Froma and Cranbourn three hides was held (with other great estates,\*) by our Earl Briðtric, T. E. C. worth 12 l. per ann. : the name in Doomſday-book is ſometimes wrote Brihtricus.

That Briðric was a great repairer, founder, or improver of Briſtol, appears from ſome Latin verſes taken from a chronicle of Tewksbury, quoted by Dugdale in Monaſticon, vol. i. p. 161.

“ Atque ego Briðtanus ultimus ante conqueſtum Dominus  
Hoc Templum fundo ; mihimet vere corde jucundo  
Briſtow conſtruxi, *Honor fiat ul Crucifixi.*”

That Briðtanus, or Biðtanus, means Briðtriðt, or Bithric, is very certain from the order of the founders here recited. Briðric, or Bightric, was a name, *quod verſu dicere nequiſ*, unfit for Latin verſe. Briðtric being a founder of the church of Tewksbury and at Briſtow at the ſame time† proves, that it was he probably that firſt annexed a cell at Briſtol, dedicated to St. James, to Tewksbury abbey, afterwards attributed to Robert Fitzhaymo, a Norman knight. — Aylward above-mentioned, in the time of King Athelſtan, is ſaid in Mr. Lant's manuſcript to have been a principal founder at Briſtol, which indeed received great improvement afterwards from moſt of the Anglo-Saxon earls of Gloceſter, who from him continued lords of it : it became afterwards a part of the honour of Gloceſter, and the caſtle here the *caput honoris Gloceſtrie*, in the later Saxon times.

Thus the Saxons having driven away the Danes, and expelled the ancient Britiſh inhabitants of this city from their native ſeat here acroſs the Severn into Wales, the Caer Brito, or Briſtol, of the Britons became Saxonified, and the place wholly in their poſſeſſion ; and the Weſt Saxons brought into ſubjection all theſe parts. And as they could not ſubdue the Britiſh ſpirit of our Romanified anceſtors, they contented themſelves with fixing their ſtation here, poſſeſſing themſelves of the city and ſtrong Roman camps in its neighbourhood, (ſome Saxon coins in my poſſeſſion having been found together with the Roman coins dug there.) They ſtrengthened the Saxon government here by every politic ſtep ; and by walling the town to a larger extent than before, and increaſing its trade and ſhipping, it ſoon became more and more flouriſhing, whilit

\* Of his great poſſeſſions, vid. Annals below.

† In an old grant to the abbey of Tewksbury the rents (exitus) and tythes of Briſteſton is mentioned to be paid to that abbey. Vid. Sir Robert Atkins's Hiſtory of Gloceſterſhire.



whilst Caerleon and Caerwent, ancient seaports, lost their former grandeur, trade and importance, and from famous cities dwindled away into obscure towns, and Newport and Chepstow rose up in their stead.

In the time of Edward the Confessor, in the year 1051, (1043 say some) \* Harold and Leofwine the sons of Earl Godwin, are mentioned by our historians to have been proscribed, and that coming to Bristol, " They went aboard a ship that their brother Swayne had prepared for them and were " carried into Ireland:" this confirms the account in the manuscript history of Turgot afore mentioned page 33, where the matter is more particularly described. In 1063, Harold then Duke of Suffex and Kent embarked with his forces aboard a fleet at Bristowe to invade Wales, to take revenge on Griffyth King of Wales, between whom and Harold there was a great enmity. †

Coins have been ever looked upon, as a proof of the dignity and antiquity of the place where they are found. The Roman have been mentioned before; and the Saxons have also left here traces of themselves by their coins.

Here I shall have recourse to a curious collection of coins and monumental stones mentioned by Turgot, preserved afterwards in the cabinet of Mr. Canynge; and although the coins themselves cannot be produced, yet an account of them said to be " drawn from the cabinet itself" by Thomas Rowlie about 1460, in his own writing is still extant. And as I would give the real and genuine account of these coins in the Translator's own words from Turgot, I shall confine myself to a faithful and exact copy from the original parchment manuscript as follows, in which the ink and letters by time were almost defaced, and leave the reader to judge of its authenticity.

" Of the auntiaunte forme of Monies carefullie gotten for Mayster William Canynge by mee Thomas Rowleie."

" Greete was the wyfdome of him who sayde the whole worlde is to ne one Creature, whereof every Man and Beaste is a Member; Ne Manne lyveth therefore for hymself but for hys fellow creature. Excellent and Pythey was the sayeing of Mr. Canynge that Trade is the soule of the worlde, but Monie the soule of Trade, ande alas! Monie is nowe the soule of Manie. The age when Metalles fyrste passed for monie is unnoticed: As Oxen and sheepe is thoughten to have beene the moste earlie Monie or Change.

\* Pono Haroldus & Leofwinus filii (Godwini) Bristowam adeuntes Navem quam frater Illorum Suanus sibi pacaverat, conscenderunt & in Hiberniam transvecti fuerunt — Sim. Dun. p. 185. Haroldus & Leofwinus in Hiberniam transiretarunt Chron. Prompt p. 943 apud x Script. Stows Annals by Horves. p. 95. 96.

† Florent. Wygorn. Also Turgot before p. 33.





Change. Butte ytte is sylle more difficyle to fyx the fyrst tyme of flampeying ytte. Abrahame is sayde to have yeven Shekyls bie wayght: An Ebrewer Writer faith that in the Daies of Joshua the Ebrewes enflamped theyre Monies wythe the Symboles of the Tabernacle Vessylles, butte I thynke the fyrste enflampeying came from Heathenne Amuletts, whyche were markyd wythe the Image of theyre Idolle, & preefts dyd carrie from Houfe to Houfe begginge or rather demaundyng offeryngs for theyr Idolle — The Ebrewes who scorn'd not to learne Inyquytie frome theyr Captyves, & vaynlie thynkyng as in other thyngs to copy other Natyons myghte take uppe thys ensample Ande enflamepyng theyre Monie in the oulde tyme of Josue beyne maie hadde one of the Idolatries mentyon'd in holie wrete. Examyne into antiquytie & you wylle fynde the folk of Athens stampyd an Owelette the Byrde of Athene, the Sycilyans fyre the Symbole of theyre Godde Vulcane, theie of Ægypt a couchaunt Creeture wythe a Lyones Boddie & a Hawkes heade Symbole of theyre Godde Ofyris: Butte to come to owre owne Countrie: Oure fyrste fathers the Bryttons usyd yron & Brasse ryngs some round, some shapyd like an Egge: Eleven of these were founde in the Gardenne of Galfrydus Coombe on Sainte Mychaels Hylle, bie theyre dyspositionne in the grounde seemed to have been strunge onne a srynge, & were alle marquede on Insyde thus *M* Lykewyse is in Maystre Canynges Cabynet an Amulett of Brytische Characters peeced at the Toppe. Julyus Cæsars Coynes were the fyrste enflamped Monies yfede in Englande: after whomme the Bryttonnes coyned as followes. Tenantius at Caer Britoe, Cunobelyne at fundarie places, butte notte at Caer Brytoe. Arvyragus at Caer Brytoe, Maryus at Caer Brytoe, Bassianus at Caer Brytoe, Syke was the multitude of monies bie them coyned upon Vyctoryes & sykelyke that neyther anie Kyng tyll Arthurre's tyme coyned quantity of Metalles for anie use nor dyd Arthuree make monie but a peece of Sylverie toe be worne rounde of those who han wonne Honnour in Batelles. \* Edelbarte Kyng of

Kente

\* Cambden says Athelbred first coined money in England, the penny weighed 3d. five pennies made a scilling, 48 scillings their pound, 400 lib. a legacy for a King's daughter. 30 pennies a macus, mancus a mark of silver, manca a square piece of gold value 30 pennies.

But the Saxon coins, names, weights and value, are the following according to Mr. Clarke's Connexion of Roman, Saxon and English coins.

Saxon Gold Coins.

Mancus	- - - -	wt. 54 gr.	6s. of their money,	-	9s. 10d. of ours.
Half Mancus	- - - -	27	3s.	- - - -	4s. 6d.
Later Mancus, ora					
and Anglo Saxon Shilling	22	1s.	- - - -	-	3s.



Kente was the fyrste Chrystenned Kyng & coyners in Kent, Chaulyne or Ceaulynne of the Weste Saxones, Arpenwaltus of the Easte Angles, Æthelstred of the north Humberes, And Wulferus of the Mercians. The Piece coyned by the Saxones was clepen pennyes thryce the Value of our pennyes. In Adelstanes reyn were two Coyners in Bryghstowe & one at Wyckewarre at which two places was made a peece yclepen twain penny.

Golde was not coyned tyll the tyme of Edwardus but Byzantes of Constan- tinople was in ure, some whereof containyd fower Markas or Mankas some two, some one & some les and more. Robert Rouse Erle of Gloucester had hys mynte at Brystowe & coyned the best monie of anie of the Bar- onnes. Henrie Secundus graunted to the Lord of Bristowe Castle the ryghte of Coynynge, & the coynynge of the Lord wente curraunte unto the Regne of Henricus the thyrde: the Coyns was onne one syde a Rampaunte Lyonne with ynne a Strooke or bende Synyfler & on the other the arms of Brightstowe.

Eke had the Maioure lybertie of coyneynge & did coyne several coynes, manie of whyche are in mie seconde rolle of monies — Kyng Henricus sext, offred Maystre Canynge the ryghte of coynynge whiche hee refused, where- upon Galfridus Ocamlus who was wyth Mayster Canynge and miefelf con- cerning the saide ryghte, saieth, “ Naie bie St. Pauls Crosse hadde I such an offre, I would coyne Lead & make ne Law, hyndrynge Hyndes takynge it.” No Doubte (sayde Mayster Canynge) but you’d dyspend Heaven to gette goulde, but I dyspende Goulde to get Heaven.

This curious account is an exact transcript from the writing on vellum, which, having all the external marks of antiquity to give it the credit of an original, could not be passed by, however readers may differ in their opinions. If genuine and authentic, it proves,

1st. That besides the authorities above recited for the Caer Brito of Nen- nius being the city Bristow, British money was coined here with that name inscribed, though hitherto unnoticed.

2dly.

Silver Saxon Coins.

Shilling at 5d.	-	-	112 gr. 5d.	of their money,	1s.	2d. $\frac{1}{2}$	of ours.
Ditto at 4d.	-	-	90	4d.	-	-	11d. $\frac{1}{2}$
Thrimfa	-	-	67	3d.	-	-	8d. $\frac{1}{2}$
Penny or Sceata	-	-	22 $\frac{1}{2}$	-	-	-	above 2d. $\frac{1}{2}$
Helfling	-	-	11 $\frac{1}{4}$	-	-	-	

Copper.

Styca two to a farthing.



2dly. That coins of Bassianus and others “ have been dolven wythynn its walles,” besides the quantities of coins of other Roman Emperors, which have been found so frequently very near it.

3dly. That many coins of Saxon Kings have been thrown up, on opening the ground, in the very streets of Bristol.

From all this the antiquity of the city of Bristol is fully demonstrated.

Besides the coins before-mentioned, said to be coined here in this old vellum manuscript, there were others certainly dug up in and about Bristol, mentioned before, some Roman, some Saxon: and in another manuscript, *penes me*, written in 1708, it is asserted, that “ there were many old British coins dug up at Bristol.” In the days of King Athelstan, says Roger Hoveden, it was decreed, there should be at Canterbury seven monetaries, viz. four of the king, two of the bishop, one of the abbot; at London eight, &c.; and at Bristow, and other boroughs, one.

In Camden's list of coins we find one of Harold, table 7, of Saxon coins, No. 37; the reverse is, “ Leofwine on Brightstoll;” and in Sir Andrew Fountain's list, a penny of Harold, coined at Bristow by one Leof, a monetary: and in the list given by Snelling, wherein are the coins of the two first Williams, I find those of Bristol thus designed:

B R I C.

B R I C S T O W.

B R I G E T S T O W.

B R I G S T O W.

And the silver penny of William the Conqueror, in Dr. Ducarel's cabinet, represents that king full-faced, with two sceptres,

*Villem Rex Anglorum. Reverse, Leofwine on Brici.*

It is in the highest preservation, as Dr. Ducarel himself assured by letter the Author of this History. On a coin of Henry 1st. it is called Bristo, and on one of Edw. 1st. *Villa de Briflo*. In the manuscript of Rowley above, it is said, “ Robert Rouse Erle of Glocestre coyned the best money of any of the barons;” and in another manuscript is mentioned a “Bristow tway-penny.” The late learned President of the Society of Antiquaries, London, Dr. Milles, has communicated to the Author the following observations on the coin of this Earl Robert. “The coin of Robert, in which he is represented on horseback, was supposed by former writers to belong to Robert Duke of Normandy, the Conqueror's son, but by later critics adjudged to Robert Earl of Glocester: it has the following inscription; X ROBERTUS IV. The cross, which generally precedes these nummular legends, is placed directly before the first letter,



letter, but in this coin there is a considerable distance, owing to the cap of Robert being pointed and breaking into the circle of the legend, separates from the R, and makes it seem to follow the V; which made Mr. Colebroke, in *Archæol.* vol. iv. read it “*Rodbertus Dux:*” but this would rather give it to Robert Duke of Normandy than to the other. The circumstances that seem to weigh in favour of its being a coin of Robert Earl of Gloucester are, that all the great barons then coined money,\* that Robert (as Rowley says) coined the best money of any of the barons; that the reverse, which represented a cross, and some square and some round forms in the place of the letters, much resembles those of Eustace and Henry 2d.; and that this coin was actually found, with some coins of those princes, at or near Whitby, as Thoresby says, p. 350. *Antiquities of Leeds.*” Thus Dean Milles; and though Dr. Ducarel in a letter to me asserts, that “there are none of the old barons’ coins that have yet reached our time,” there is great reason to believe this coin of Robert Earl of Gloucester to be rightly appropriated to him.

In the days of Edward 1st. 1272, there were twelve furnaces at York, and twelve at Bristol, and more in other great boroughs, for melting silver, in order for hammering and stamping perfect monies; which continued through all the reigns, till about 1663. His coin is circumscribed with the name of the place of coinage, as *Villa Bristolliæ*, which is not rare. In Henry the sixth’s time, there was a mint in Bristol for coining silver; the place in Peter-street, near the Castle, (now the Hospital for the city poor) still retaining the name of the Mint; which coining in Henry the sixth’s time is alluded to in Rowley’s manuscripts, when Mr. Canynge had the offer of the right of coining.

In 42 Henry 8th. were coined in Bristol testoons, groats, half groats, and pennies, with *Civitas Bristolliæ* on the reverse: and 1 Edw. 6th. there was a mint at Bristol

The following coins of several other kings bear the name of Bristol upon them. — The names of 150 coiners appear on the pennies of William the 1st and 2d, struck at London, York, Winchester, Norwich, Exon, Bristow, &c. Henry 1st or 2d. Penny — a full face crowned, in the right hand a sceptre fleur-de-lis, in the left a mullet of five points. — Rev. *Geraud on Briflow.*

F

Edw.

\* As proofs, I quote the following from Roger Hoveden, A. 1149. *Hen. Dux Normannorum fecit novam monetam quam vocabant monetam Ducis, & non tantum ipse sed omnes potentes tam episcopi quam comites & barones suam faciebant monetam.* — And I find the following in William Newbrigenfis, b. i. ch. 22. “*Domini castellorum in Anglia habebant singuli percussuram proprii numismatis & potestatem regio more subditis dicendi juris.*”





Edw. 1st. Penny—Rev. *Villa Bristolie* 22 gr.  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Halfpenny—Rev. *Villa Bristolie* 11.

Edw. 4th. Gold Angel—*Ed. Di. Gr. &c.* The king in a ship with a square flag at the stern, on which is the initial E. — on the other side a full blown rose, under which is the letter B. for Bristol, the place of coinage; weight 79 gr.

Edw. 4th. Groat—*Di Gra. Rex Angl. et Franc.* on the breast B. marked on both sides with a coronet. Rev. *Villa Brissoll.*

Edw. 4th. Two-pence—*Di Grat. &c.* Rev. *Villa Brisslow.*

Hen. 8th, 1545. Testoons, Groats, Half Groats, and Pennies—with *Civitas Brissollie.*

Edw. 6th. Penny—*D. G. Rosa sine spina.* Rev. *Civitas Brissollie.*

Cul. 3d. Half Crown—*Magn Britt. &c.* 1696, under the inscription a B. struck at Bristol in the mint there. There were now five country mints erected for coining base money and silver into current milled money. There was brought into Bristol of hammered money and wrought plate as much as made in weight 146,977 oz. in order to be coined there.

There has been dug up when the bridge was taken down and rebuilt, a brass coin with a pope's head on one side, and on the other a bridge with four arches, as big as half a crown—*Sixtus IIII. pont. Max. sacri cultor*; on the reverse just over a figure of a four arch bridge, *Cura rerum publicarum.*—And another of the size of a large shilling, with a Queen crowned, perhaps for the Virgin Mary, sitting on a throne with a scepter in the right hand, with *Ave Maria Gratia plena* round; and on the reverse, a cross fleury with a quarterfoil in its center within a border, with a double line in shape of a quarterfoil, inscribed on the outside edge also with *Ave Maria Gratia plena.*

Whether these had any reference to the building of Bristol Bridge of four arches, or to any other, is left to farther enquiry. It seems to confirm the opinion, of the abbots and religious coining money, called Abby-money in the manuscripts of Rowley.

While upon this subject of coinage, it may not be improper to add, that it appears the mayor and aldermen of Bristol were authorized, by the privy council, to strike farthing tokens, in 1594: but the striking of these tokens was an abuse, not a release from the royal authority. And in Queen Elizabeth's days the magistrates of the cities of Bristol, Oxford, and many shopkeepers, made tokens of lead and brass without any authority, which they often refused to exchange: an order was sent, dated May 12, 1594, to the mayor and aldermen of Bristol, from the lords of the council, to call in all tokens struck in that



that city, and that no private trader should make any without licence from the mayor. In 1653, there was a copper coinage of halfpence and farthings by private persons till 1672, when the king's copper coin took place. One side of the coin expressed the name of the place or city, and value of the piece; and the other, the arms of the city; if of private persons or merchants, their name and trade. Bristol farthings are still common to be met with, neatly executed. On one side, the arms of the city; on the other, *a Bristol farthing* inscribed, and dated 1562, 1594.

As coins dug out of the ground have been ever regarded as proofs of the antiquity of a place, so have monumental stones with inscriptions. If any credit is to be given to old parchments with drawings of such monumental stones, with the account of the inscriptions thereon preserved, such can be produced with the name of Rowlie affixed to them, as copied from Turgot. Some are said "to be dolven in Brystowe, or wythynne short compass of its walles: one had this inscribed, *Cynwellinus & Wulferus Mercie*, & was dolven in the house of the Whyte Friars, ii on St. Mychael's-hyll, iii on Baldwynne's-hyll, iv in Hie-lane, and the reste in severall hylles & lanes, but some wythyn the walls of Baldwyn and Radcleve. One has thys: *Hic jacet Coenred Episcop. Selfeya*, A. D. DCCCCX.: another, *Tellius Sanctus Episcop. Brighstow mort.* xxvii Maii, DCXXXII. This was the Coffynne of Saint Tellius, preeste of Romannus, yclepen the learned Byshop of Roiachester, who dyed at Brightstowe. Several other stones wyth inscriptions and most auntiaunte Monuments were preserved in the Abbie of Westburie by Mr. Canynge.— One sheweth Caër Brito fulle playne, and was dolven on St. Michael's-hyll. Another more curyouse, where Caër Brito may be sene, was dolven on St. Marie's-hyll. There were drawings of other stones dug up at Brighstowe formerly; some with Saxon swords or seaxes, and Danish battle axes, but "much worn out."

To this account of coins and coinage, it may not be improper to add the following account, copied from an old manuscript in my possession, of those scarce coins, monuments, and other valuable pieces of antiquity, said once to have adorned the cabinet of a very wealthy and ingenious merchant of Bristol, the worthy Mr. Canynge; and to have been chiefly collected by Thomas Rowley, priest, of the fifteenth century, which he calls his *Yellow Roll*, and entitules it,



" England's Glorýe revyved in Maystre Canynges, beyng some Accounte  
 " of hys Cabynet of Auntyaunte Monumentes."

" To prayse thys Auntyaunte Repofytorie maie not bee fo fyttyng yn me, Seeynge I gotten itte moſte; but I amme almoſte the onlie Manne acquainted wyth alle of ytte: ande almoſte ytte is the moſt precyouse performauce in Englande. The fyrſt thyng at youre Entrance is a Stonen Bedde,\* whyche was manie yeers kepte in Towre Errys, and belonged to Erle Bythryck. Rounde the Cabynette are Coynes on greete Shelves fetyvelie payncted. The Coynes are of Greece, Venyce, Rome, Fraunce, ande Englande, from the Daies of Julyus Cæſar to thys preſent, conſyſtyng of Denarii, Penys, Ores, Mancas, Byzantynes, Holly Land Moneie, of whych Penys, Denarii ande Twapenyſes there are coyned ynne Bryſtoe fourtie & nyne of dyffarante Sortes; Barons' Moneie, Citie Monie, Abbye Monie to beſyde the coynes and moneie would fylle a redde Rolle.† Goe wee thenne to the oder thynges.

The Greete Ledger‡ is a Gemme wordie the Crowne of a Kynge: itte contayneth the Workes of Turgotte, a Saxonne Monke, as followes. Battle of Haſtynges, ynne Anglo-Saxonne, donne moe playne bie mee for Mayſtre Canynges.§ Hyſtorie of Bryghſtowe,|| inne Saxonne Latynne, tranſlated for Mr. C. bie mee. Auntyaunte Coynes, with the Hyſtorie of the firſt Coynynge bie the Saxonne, done from Saxonne into Englyſhe. Hyſtorie of St. — Church of Durhame. Alle theſe ynne Latynne. Lyfe of Byghtrycus, Kynge of the Weſt Saxonne, and Annales from hym to Byghthrycus the Erle. Alle thye ynne Englyſhe. — Neere is mie unworthie Rolles, beeyng a fynyſhing of Turgotte\*\* to the Reygne of K. Edward the —. My Volume  
of

\* That ſuch a bed, or rather bedſtead, was in being for years at the houſe, in Redcliff-ſtreet, where Mr. Canynges dwelt, has been affirmed by an old inhabitant of that houſe.

† From this repoſitory then were derived the coins, mentioned in p. 38. in the little eſſay on coining.

‡ This ſeems to be a different book from thoſe Ledger-Books named in the will of Mr. Canynges, which the late Dean Milles juſtly ſuppoſed to be Service-Books for the uſe of the chaplains. — This was a Family-record Book, in which they entered any thing curious or uſeful to be preſerved, and in which they read for their entertainment: moſt families formerly had ſuch for their amuſement.

§ A poem has been publiſhed under this name. See Rowley's Poems, by Dean Milles, p. 40, 97. Whether the whole was faithfully tranſcribed by Chatterton, or altered by him, may admit of a doubt. We ſee here there was ſuch a poem extant.

|| This is the ſubject of the purple roll, and may be ſeen faithfully copied, page 32 of this Hiſtory.

\*\* This is wanting. It is remarkable, he writes King Edward the —, without mentioning



of Verfes,\* wyth Letters to and from John Lydgate. My owne Hyftorye of Moneies, Collecyon of Monymentes,† &c. Lykewyfe the verie Lettre fente bie the Lordes Rychard of Yorke, Warwyck, & Sarysburye, to Kynge Henrie.‡ Onne one Corner yn the Cabynet is a Syghte moft terryble, beeynge Inſtrumentes of Warre, raunged in fuche Arraie that in the Lyghte of the Sunne, or the comeynge of a candle, ytte ſhynethe moſte marvellouſe to behoulde. Ytte ys of Bryttyſh Swordes and Sheeldes, whych prove the Auntiquitee of Armoureye, beeynge marqué ſome wyth an Ivie Leefe, ſome wyth an Oke Leefe, ſome wyth a Hare or Hounde, and ſuch lyke. Roman Speeres and Bucklers, lykewyfe Blazonede, but all of the ſame Charge. Saxonne Swordes or Seaxes ande Sheeldes, blazoned wyth a Croſſe patee. Danyſh Battle Axes and Sheeldes, blazoned wyth a Rafen. The Armour and laſte Testamente of Roberte Rouſe, Conſul of Glouceſter.§ The Gawntlette of Roberte, Sonne of Wyllyam the Conquerour, whych hee leſte behynde hym in Bryſtowe Caſtle. Syrre Charles Bawdwyne a Fulforde, commonlie cleped Baudynne Fullforde, his Bonde toe the Kynge Henrye to take the Erle of Warwyke's Lyfe or loſe hys hede, whych he dyd not perſourme, butte loſte his heede to Kynge Edward.¶ Thus muche for the Cabynette."

Various will be the opinions held of theſe manuſcript accounts, reſpecting their authenticity; they may probably be called in queſtion as much as the poems have been, publiſhed under the name of Rowley. It might however be deemed unfair in an Hiſtorian to have concealed what the public have a right to canvas, approve or rejeſt as they may judge right. — They are here faithfully tranſcribed and communicated; and are ſubmitted to the judgement of the candid and ingenuous reader, either to receive or rejeſt them. The Author takes it not upon himſelf to determine; but pays that deference to the judgement of every reader of abilities and candour, as to leave him to form an opinion of it without interpoſing his own. Whatever that be, the external evidence of the genuineness of theſe manuſcripts was ſuch, as fully to authorize

him as King Edward the 4th, being a zealous Lancaſtrian, as appears from other paſſages in his Letters, and ſo not acknowledging Edw. 4th. as king.

\* This is the poem on Ella, and others not particularly noted.

† Some of theſe are probably thoſe mentioned before, p. 38, 43.

‡ That ſuch a letter was ſent, our chronicles bear witneſs.

§ What a value would be now ſet on theſe Britiſh ſhields and ſwords, and Roman ſpears and bucklers? What an addition even to the Britiſh Muſeum, eſpecially the armour of Robert Rouſe, the valiant champion of his day? And what would be the price now of the gauntlet and laſt teſtament of Robert, the Conqueror's ſon?

¶ See this mentioned in Stowe's Chronicle, under the year 1461.





authorize him to give them to the public, whatever shall be infer'd from the internal evidence. The late learned Dean Milles has already laid before the public in his elegant edition of Rowley's poems with notes, every thing that tends to illustrate his subject and develop this intricate and obscure affair, and place it before the reader in a proper light, and striking point of view, to all which I refer; and if the reader adds to the evidence produced by him, what is here advanced from the yellow and purple roll, and from other original parchment manuscripts under the name of Rowley to be now published in this work, he will then be able to form a just opinion and judgment of this long contested subject, and have the whole evidence before him to direct him in his determination: but "*adhuc sub Judice Lis est.*" Some say, the truth may be found not to be with one but betwixt the two contending parties; but as every one will form an opinion of his own in all such disputes, who shall be judge? Each must after weighing all the evidence judge for himself, which he will now be the better enabled to do, from what has been advanced and will yet occur in the course of this work.

But whatever credit these old manuscripts, and ancient accounts of coins and monumental stones relating to Bristol, demand from the judicious and candid reader; yet not only in the Saxon but also in the Norman times, and later writings we shall find Bristol making a still more conspicuous figure in the history and indubitable records of those days.

In the time of W. 1, it appears from records that in that reign the inhabitants of Bristol were stiled burgeses, when the survey of the kingdom called \*Dooms-Day was made and the place itself consequently a Borough; by which is meant a town with limited boundaries, walled or not, claiming by prescription or by grant the privilege of choosing its own magistrates or governors, for the better regulation of trade or morals under protection of the Lord of the fee, from the Saxon *Beorghan* to fence, keep in safety &c. And it is granted the ancient burgh and city differed little or nothing in signification. And the honourable station it then filled in this kingdom, appears from its being rated in Domesday-book higher than any city, or town in England, except London, York and Winchester. Robert the rhyming Monk of Gloucester reckons Bristol among the first and chief towns in this land:

"The furste lordes and maistres that yn yis londe wer,

"And the chyffe tounes furste they lete arer,

"London & Everwyk, Lyncolne & Leycestre

"Cocheestre & Canterbyre, Bristoe & Worcestre."

About

\* "*Bertune and Bristow paid to the King 110 marks of silver and the burgeses returned that shop G. had 33 marks and one mark of gold.*"



About the conquest say some, were built divers towns to guard the frontiers of Wales, Bristol, Gloucester, Worcester, Shrewsbury and Chester; these were garrison towns of the Marches of Wales: Or rather were appointed such from their situation, though built long before. The Lords Marches were created to watch and ward that country, and were to be always ready to march against the Welsh.

When Bristol was exempt from the Marches of Wales, which was a great trouble and expence to the town, will appear in the annals.

In 1st year of W. 2, it is certain, that Godfrey the Bishop of Constance and his nephew the Earl of Northumberland, held the castle of Bristol then an ancient most strong and impregnable fortress. \* The names of many who were governors of Bristol and its castle in the Saxon times have been transmitted down to us, so as to put its antiquity quite out of question.

The first chief magistrate or governor of Bristol was called † *prepositus de Briflou*, under the custos or constable of the castle who held it under the Saxon Earls of Gloster; and in Edward the Confessor's time.

In the charter of King John, the chief officer indeed is mentioned in the translation under the name of a *provost* which answers to *prepositus*.

It thus appears that Bristol had its magistrates and officers or governors of its own long before it was erected into a mayor town or corporate body. In the year 1066, Harding ‡ (whose name now is in the inscription over the gate way in College Green) the ancestor of the Berkeley family, being a magistrate and rich merchant of Bristol, held Wheatenhurst in the hundred of Whitston Gloucestershire in morgage of Earl Britrick. He is called mayor and governor of Bristol, and Leland says " he removed the fraternity of Calendars, (a society in Bristol existing before the conquest) to the church of All-Hallows, which before were at Christ Church, and " that the schools then ordained by these Calendars, for the conversion of the Jews in Briflowe

was

\* See chapt. of the castle below, and annals for that year.

† Vid. Doomsday-book 75, in Gloucester, " In Sineshovede hund. Rogerius fil. Rad. ten. manerium quod tenuit Seruinus p'positus de Briflou de Rege E. &c." Terra Rogerii filii Rad. Nōie Clifstone In Sineshovede Hund. Rogerius fil. Rad. ten. unum Marcuim q'd tenuit Seruinus p'positus de Briflou de rege E. & poterat ire cum hac tena quo volebat. nec aliquam firmam inde dabat — Ibi iii hidæ. In d'no s't iii Car. & vi Vill. & vi bord. cum ii Car. Ibi iii Servi & viii ac. p'ti. Valet. c Solid. Modo lx solid. Supposed to relate to the tithings of Almondsbury — Rudder's Glocest. p. 223.

This Serwin being prepositus of Briflou in the time of K. Edward the Confessor, shew: the chief officer there to have that title, which name continued in Henry 3ds. time, when there were a mayor and two prepositors.

‡ Atkins Gloucestershire, p. 261.



was put into the order of the Calendars and the Mayor;" \* which shews a governor then presided here even under the name and office of a Mayor long before any lists of mayors we have at present do begin.

About the time of the conquest Robert Fitzhaymon held the honor of Gloucester of which Bristol was a part, and he then received the rents or tythes, (*Decimas de Exitibus Bristollie*) as paid to the Lord of Gloucester then and before, and he gave it to the Abby of Tewksbury which he founded. Henry 2, in 1144 was educated four years in learning at Bristol, as will appear below in the chapters on the cathedral and castle. In the reign of King John one Englard de Cygoine held the ferm (firmam) of Bristol for the account (compotum) or fine of 145l. which Richard the burgeses paid for him.

In † 1177, 23 Henry 2, the burgeses of Bristol render an account of eighty marks for Sturmis the usurer: he freed it in the treasury and was quit. Jordan the dapifer of the Earl of Gloucester owed fifty marks for default. Mag. Rotul 3 Glost.

In the 30 year of Henry 2, the men of Bristol paid a fine of 50l. to have respite and not to be impleaded without the walls of their town, till the King's return into England.

In 1196, 7 Richard 1, a tallage or tax was laid by William Bishop of Hereford, Hugh Bardolph and others the King's Justices upon the King's manors and burghs. The burgeses of Bristol paid 200 marks (133l. 6s. 8d.) and for the fair of Bristol 10 marks (6l. 13s. 4d.)

And in 1225, 9 Henry 3, the burgeses of Bristol accounted to the King for 245l. the ferm of their town, the King having demised the town to them at that ferm, so that they were to answer for two parts of that ferm at the feast of St. Michael, and for the rest at the feast of St. Hillary, saving to the King for use of the Constable of the castle and his family residing therein the prize of beer, as much as they shall have need of; so that the burgeses have the remainder: and saving to the King the Bailiwick (Baillia) of the Berton of Bristol (Barton Regis) and the Chace of Brul of Keinsham and of the Wood of Furches, which the King kept in his own hand.

In 1201, 12 of King John there was a treasury at Bristol, mentioned in Maddox history of the Exchequer, p. 421 c. 2. x. and about that time the townspaid an aid for the King's passage into Ireland: ‡ "the burgeses of Gloucester

\* Leland, V. vii. 2 Ed. p. 88 — vid. Little red book of Bristol, manuscript in Chamber of Bristol, p. 88. and in All Saints parish. the chap. below.

† Vid. Maddox history of Exchequer, 143. 228. 486. & alibi.

‡ Auxilium Villarum ad passagium Hybernæ, Burgenfes Gloucestræ reddunt compotum de 500 marcis de eodem: Homines de Bristol reddunt compotum de 1000 marcis de eodem: Homines de redclive reddunt compotum de 1000 marcis de eodem &c. Maddox.



" cester render an account (comptum) of 500 marks for the same, the men of Bristow 1000 marks for the same, the men of Redecleve 1000 marks for the same. In the treasury were 237l. 6s. 8d. and Englard de Cigoni had 225 marks to put into the treasury of the king at Bristow. The men of the templars of Redecleve render account of 500 marks for the same."

King John, when Earl of Moreton only, by marriage with a daughter of William Earl of Gloucester, held the town of Bristol as part of that earldom; and after he came to be king, Bristol became vested in the crown, and the kings of England ever after received a certain annual sum for the ferm of the town, as the earls of Gloucester did before; Bristol, as mentioned before, being part of that earldom, and a demesne of it.

Thus Hugh Bardolph (Magn. Rot. 31st Henry 2d.) renders an account (among other things belonging to the Earl of Gloucester's lands,) of 119l. 7s. 5d. of the rent of Bristow, and of the mills, and of the fairs, and for having a house at Bristow, 3l. os. 10d. where the king's rents are received, and for mending the tower of Bristow, and for hiring carpenters, and for stones for the mills, and for repairing the houses in the manors, 13l. os. 6d.

So populous, flourishing, and rich was Bristol in Henry 2d's. time, that he greatly favoured it with his bounty and royal grants, and gave it charters, and also a grant\* of the city of Dublin (then called Devlin) in Ireland to inhabit, possess, and enjoy; and a colony from Bristol was sent thither for that purpose, who were to have the same privileges and free customs they held in Bristol.

In 1305, King Edward 1st. taking a tallage of all towns and cities corporate in England, Bristol gave him 400l. for a fine.

And in the 45th year of Edward 3d. Rot. 40. by a patent letter of his great seal he demised the town of Bristol to Walter de Derby and Henry Derneford for one year, they rendering and paying the sums of money reserved in the demise. The profits of the town consisted in houses, shops, cottages, sheds, gardens, mills, pools, tyne of the castle, rents landgable, tolls, pleas of court, customs of the fair and market, and other rights belonging to them; they held it in the same manner as the mayor and commonalty of Bristol held the same of the grant of late Queen Philippa, the garden below the castle and the garden towards the Berton only being excepted; reserving all royal liberties in the said town, and others of old belonging to the castle of Bristol; reserving

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also

\* A copy of it is extant in Dr. Leland's History of Ireland. Also in Camden is the following note: " An English colony was transplanted from Bristol thither (Dublin) by King Henry the second, giving them this city (which perhaps at that time was drained of inhabitants,) in these words, " with all the liberties and free customs which those of Bristol enjoyed." From that time it flourished more and more, &c."





also (multura bladi) a fine of corn to the constable of the castle, for his own table and his family's: and (Garneftura in castro predicto ad molendina ejusdem Villæ quicta de Theolonio inde præstando)&c. They were to pay besides for that year 100l. They were to have liberty to dig the king's ground; to mend the mill-ponds, when out of repair; and to pay the constable of the castle 20l. for that year for his wages for keeping the castle, and every day 2 d. for the wages of the porter, and 3 d. a day for two watchmen, and an halfpenny every night for their wages, and to pay their vail week after week, or every quarter, as the constable would have it: and to pay for the year to the abbot of Tewksbury 14l. 10s. for the tenths of the town; and to the prior of St. James 60s. of annual rent for the mill; and to the custos maritimus (or water-bailiff) 1l. 6s. 8d. (pro robâ suâ) and to the keeper of the forest of Kingswood every day 7½ d. and to bear for the king all other burdens, expences, dues of charity and customs, so that a whole 100l. remain to the king: and to keep up and repair all houses, gardens, mills, &c. above-mentioned, belonging to the said town in the same good order they receive them.

When the same King Edward 3d. ann. r. 47, made Bristol a county of itself, and granted the city several franchises, it was "provided they do answer to the king yearly for his fermes and other dues."

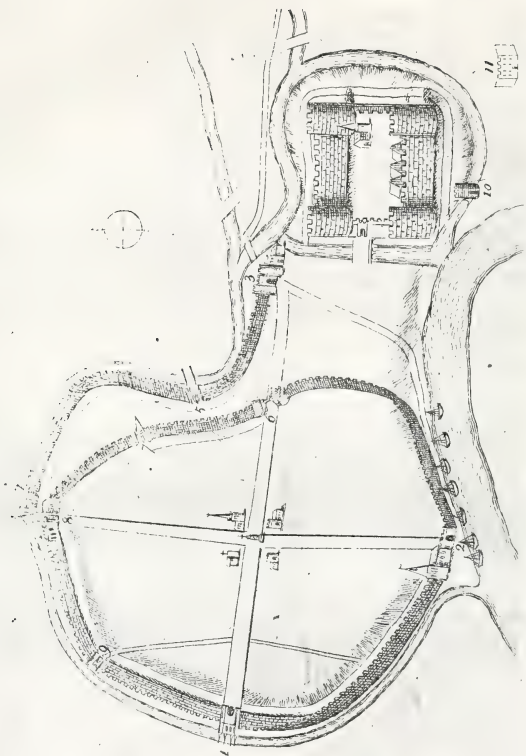
In the 5th year of Edward 4th. John Cogan, sherriff of Bristol, paid 102l. 15s. 6d. charged on the mayor and commonalty of Bristol, for the fee farm of the king's town, to Elizabeth consort of King Edward 4th. settled on the queen for her life.

In the great roll, 29th Henry 6th. Hugh Withiford, mayor of Bristol, and commonalty of the same, and their successors, stood charged to the king with 102l. 15s. 6d. per annum, for the town of Bristol and the suburbs thereof, the ditches, gates, flesh shambles, &c. demised to them for twenty years, which were settled on Queen Margaret by the king for the term of her life.

But the city was released and exonerated from payment of these and other fee farm rents charged thereon, by the corporation purchasing them of the crown, in the times of Charles 1st. and 2d. as will hereafter be made appear.

The annals of the city will also hereafter contain more explicit accounts, early records, and charters of Bristol, from which may be deduced a full relation of its ancient state and public transactions.







## C H A P. III.

## A PLAN and DESCRIPTION of BRISTOL, in its Early and Middle State.

IN tracing back the antiquity of the city many things have necessarily occurred already in the course of that inquiry, describing the first and early state of it, which shall now be farther delineated as well as can be collected from authentic records and manuscripts, from old plans, and from considering the first site and ground plot of the town, and comparing it with any vestiges and marks that still remain.

About a mile from the Roman camp at Clifton or station Abone, under the hills and within its view was the British town (Caer Brito) first laid out at the conflux of the two rivers Avon and Frome, with which it had the advantage of being surrounded except on the northern part, where the castle was afterwards erected. The ground on which the city was built rises each way to the center, forming a pleasant hill. Having pitched upon this commodious station they divided it into four streets, walling it round after the banks of the rivers for its greater security and defence, placing a gate at the end of each street; and being converted to the Christian faith, erecting churches there, and a cross in the center where the streets intersected each other, and formed a cross an emblem of their Christian profession. Thus a gate, and a church or chapple terminated each of the four streets, and four churches surrounded the cross at the center. No. 1, Baldwin's afterwards Leonard's gate. No. 2, St. Nicholas gate. No. 3, Elle gate, or that next the castle since rebuilt and called New gate. No. 4, Frome gate, or the Water gate. No. 5, Pithay, or Aylward's gate. No. 6, Defence gate. No. 7, Tower gate. No. 8, St. John's gate. No. 9, St. Giles's gate. No. 10, Sally-port of the castle. No. 11, Godfrey's lodge.

A wall embattled on the top, joined and inclosed the whole, though as related in Turgott's manuscript account, "the walls and gates suffered alteration," yet the shape and site of the city in general must have remained the same and still continues so to this day.



The gradual declivity from the center on all sides, contributes greatly to its being neat and cleanly, every shower washing down the dirt into the adjacent rivers, besides affording afterwards the advantage of making those large gouts so convenient to this day; through which, by means of the returning tide, the filth of the city is disembogued and daily ebbd away into the Severn sea twice in twenty-four hours. The river Froom, with which it is chiefly moted, arises at Dodington and Rangeworthy not far from Tetbury in Gloucestershire, and running through Aſton there called Loden, and Hambrook to Stoke, where it meets a spring from Lord Bottetourt's park and takes the name of Froom, and so to Stapleton and close under the north walls of the city, passes Froom-bridge; and, before the present quay was dug, held on its course \* through the fish market and Baldwin-street, built on its banks, to St. Nicholas port, along under the walls of the town, and there it emptied itself into the Avon in full current; where was the confluence of the two rivers: it drove a mill erected for the use of the town called Baldwin's cross-mill, just before its discharge into the Avon. At Blind-steps there seems to have been of old a slip or passage leading to this mill, of which there are some traces remaining still in a cellar at the corner of Baldwin-street; where are three old strong arches on each side of it now to be seen, being the thoroughs through which the water of the Froom then flowed, that drove the wheels, the mill-house being erected over them. This course of the Froom is not only proved by manuscript and authentic records, but by a whole boat having been of late years found in digging the foundation for a house in Baldwin-street, and by other remains of shipping and naval stores dug up there formerly. Nicholas-street being the bounds of the old city on this side, the thick old city-wall may be seen there in many places at this day, as it may also in Leonard's-lane, embattled still at the top next Giles's-gate; — where being continued on to St. John's-gate along Bell-lane, in which once was a church dedicated to St. Lawrence, it joined the Tower-wall in Tower-lane, which with a strong gate in its middle and another at its upper end at the top of the Pithay, extended into Wine-street, called also Wynch-street; where at Defence-lane it joined the city-wall on the banks of the Avon, which was fortified with a wall round to St. Nicholas gate; — it was called Defence-lane, or Defence-street, in all old deeds, (and since

\* See Annals for the year 1247. — also the plate. — There is in a manuscript in the Chamber of Bristol called Ryeaut's Calendar, a coloured drawing or view of the city about 1470 as described above, the streets and houses laid out in form of a cross with a gate and church at each end, the High-cross in the center, and four churches, and the river running round it.





since Dolphin-lane, from the Dolphin-inn once there) as a place of defence or barrier for the city on that side, and securing it against any attempts or insurrection of the soldiers of the castle, as described by William Worcester, p. 236. This was the internal wall of the city, added for the greater strength and security; the external on this side being constructed on the very bank of the Froom, from Froom-gate to Pithay-gate and Newgate, there joining the castle.

On the north-east side it was moted with a little arm of the Froom by a channel made by hand quite round till it met the Avon, which skirted the city on the south side, where the wall was continued quite round the castle; thus completing the fortification of the city. The double wall that was built at Tower-lane, and on the banks of the Froom river, is a proof of the antiquity of the place, and of its being augmented from time to time. The old city is said to have been fortified with that inner wall, by Geoffry Bishop of Constance; or it was by him repaired and enlarged, when he, raising a rebellion against William Rufus, chose it for the seat of war, as will hereafter be more particularly mentioned in the chapter on the castle.

Under the wall above described on the south side ran the river Avon, (so called from Abone, the antient British word for a river,) which parts Somersetshire\* from Gloucestershire; and during the Saxon heptarchy, Bristol was reckoned in these two counties or kingdoms: in the former were the Mercians seated; in the latter, or Redcliff side, the West Saxons: and it was by late writers placed by some in one, by some in the other county. This river Avon runs through Wiltshire, rising near Tetbury in Gloucestershire, at Kemble and Luckington in two streams, which join at Malmesbury in one, and pass through Chippenham, Lacock, † Melksham, Bradford, down to Bath and Bristol; and receiving a branch of the Froom at the Castle, and the whole river Froom itself formerly near Nicholas-port but now at the Quay, glides on in a winding course by Redcliff till it passes the city and the rocks of St. Vincent below it, which seem as if cleft  
in

\* Bristol is ever mentioned in the old Parliament rolls to be in Somersetshire, as Redcliff really was, and in the West Saxon kingdom; — a proof that Redcliff was part of the antient *Caer Brito*, and not of late rise: though some manuscripts say, William Earl of Gloucester annexed Redcliff to Bristol.

† A nunnery there, built by Ela Countess of Salisbury, in Snailmead, now the seat of John Talbot, Esq. Leland says, "silver money was dug up there in a field called Silver-feld." It was on the Roman road, called by Antonine *Verlucio*, and by Richard of Cirencester. There are now the remains of a nunnery, most compleat of any in England. Ela was buried 1300, in the church of Osney; she founded a chapel at Rewly, nigh Oxford, where the foundation stone, in 1705, was dug up with the name of Ela upon it, and is preserved by Hearn, in the Bodleian Library. Vid. Leland, *Itin.* p. 94, v. 2.



in a stupendous manner to let it through, and about seven miles below falls into Kingroad, or the Severn sea. Boats of burden used of old to carry goods from Bristol to Bath, until the river was obstructed by weirs, mills, &c. as appears by Claus. 4 Edw. 1. p. 1, m. 4, who ordered the removal of them; but it was again made navigable in the year 1727: see annals for that year.— And might also, in the opinion of many, be let into the Isis at Cricklade by cutting a new channel for a few miles, and thereby a navigation be effected betwixt the first and second city in the kingdom, London and Bristol, which was opposed in 1656 by the corporation, as to the prejudice of the city.— Some steps have of late been taken, by the merchants of Bristol, towards this great work, by a scheme for extending the navigation from Bath to Chippenham; of which see annals for the year 1767. The tide in the river Avon flows up as high almost as to Cainsham, or near four miles; but after that the barges go against the stream, and are drawn along by men, which renders the passage somewhat tedious. Bath is by this means supplied with timber, deals, &c. for building, wine, cyder, iron, and all bulky goods, from Bristol at a small expence. Leland well describes the rise and course of the Avon, Itin. vol. ii. f. 26, and f. 31, and “ enumerates the bridges it passes through from “ Malmesbury, viz. Christine-Malford-bridge, five miles lower; Caifway-bridge, “ two miles lower; Chippenham, a right fair bridge, about a mile lower; the “ town on the right ripe towards London, Rhe-bridge, (in the parish of La- “ cock,) one mile and a half lower; Lacock-bridge, one mile and a half “ lower; Staverton-bridge, four miles lower; Bradford-bridge, two miles “ lower; Bath-bridge, of five fair arches, five miles lower; Bristow-bridge, “ ten miles lower. At two miles above Bristow-bridge was a Commune Tra- “ jectus by bote, where was a chapel of St. Ann, and here was great pilgrim- “ age to St. Ann.”—It is in the parish of Brislington, and some old arches remain of the chapel still to be seen.

Bristol, being so commodiously situated at the confluence of two such rivers as the Avon and the Frome, could not fail of being supplied with water, that necessary of human life; but had also the advantage of being moted round, for its greater security by their united streams, which with the embattled walls and castle must have rendered it a very defensible city against the enemy in those early times, especially as the whole ground plot was on a hill.

In these walls, when “ they suffered alteration,” were, besides the four gates, others added. The old gates had a groove in the sides from the top to the bottom, in which a portcullis (i. e. a falling door, or wooden frame, shod with iron, shaped like a harrow,) was let down for the better defence of the city.



city. These gates are all enumerated and described by Leland. " Newgate (as methynkyethe) is in the utar waulle by the castle, and a chapelle over itte: itte is the pryson of the city. St. John's-gate, a church on eche syde of it; St. John's church, it is harde on the north side of it, and there be Cryptæ. St. Giles's-gate be the south-west of the Key, where Frome rennithe. St. Leonarde's-gate, and a parochie church over it. St. Nicolas-gate, where is a church cum cryptis. These be the inner gates of the ould town cis Sabrinam, as the town standithe in dextra ripa defluentis Avonæ."

Besides these walls and gates, there were others called by Leland the externa or secunda mœnia urbis. The outward wall of the city seems to have run in a line from Froom-gate, after the river Froom was turned into the Key, straight along the Key, where was a tower opposite the Drawbridge, to Marsh-gate, so round by King-street to the Back-gate in Back-street, the wall there joining the Avon. In making the new street 1771 from Corn-street to the Key, by a subscription of 8000*l.* of which the corporation gave 2000*l.* they found in digging the ground a gout, the old arched gout, once the bed of the river Froom, next St. Leonard's church; and at the bottom of Clare-street, a wall five feet and a half thick next the Key, once the city wall here. These walls were built when the city enlarged its boundaries, ranging beyond its former limits. Thus Leland: " In the uttar (outer) wallis Marsh-gate e regione Avonæ." Back-gate is also intended, but through a flaw in Leland's manuscript is not named there. On the Redcliff side he says accurately enough, " In the waulle ultra pontem & Avonam be two gates, Raddeclyffe-gate and Temple-gate, and a greate tower called Tower-Harrys, at the very ende of the waulle in ipsa ripa Avonæ." But the present Temple-gate is of a beautiful and neat modern structure; as was Redcliff, now taken down. Leland says of the wall, " that certain Bochers made a fayre peace of this waulle, and it is the highest and strongest of all the town waulles."

This insular situation of the city obliged them to erect several bridges to the gates that led out of it. Froom-gate of old was a grand and noble structure, consisting of two arched ways, adorned with the heads of Brightrick and Robert Earl of Gloucester; and the bridge still remains, constructed of two solid Gothic arches, with strong and thick piers, as the custom then was. — Through Elle-gate, now Newgate, was the common high road into Gloucestershire; this gate, though of one opening or passage only, seems to consist of four arches, turned one within the other at different times, which shews its antiquity: and had a figure in stone on each side; one, holding in his hand a kind



kind of model of a castle-like building, represents Robert Earl of Gloucester, the repairer and enlarger of the castle; the other, having a cup with a cover or chalice in his hand, was for Godfrey Bishop of Constance, who built some of the walls, and fortified the castle, in the second year of K. W. 2d. — Below this gate was also a bridge, still remaining, by which we pass over a branch of the Froom; and another just below it, over the river Froom itself: through the first the Castle-mills are supplied with water, and the last leads us into the parish of St. James or Merchant-street. Farther on the Wear is another, called by the name of Ell-bridge\* or of Wear-bridge, (mentioned by Leland,) "harde by the northe-east parte of the castle of Bristowe;" he adds, "there brekythe an arme out of Frome, a but-shot above Werebrydge, and" "renithe thrwge a stone bridge of one greate arche; and there at Newgate" "the other parte of Frome, reninge from Werebridge, cummithe undar another stone, and servinge the mille hard withote Newgate, metithe with the" "other arme."

There must also have been a bridge at Baldwin's (or Leonard's) gate over the Froom, when it ran through Baldwin's-street its ancient course, though it is long since destroyed and the river itself there filled up since the turning of the course of the Froom into the Quay.

At Nicholas-gate, of old called Warburghs, there was first a ferry to St. Thomas slip on the opposite shore or Avon's bank, till a bridge was afterwards constructed there, of which hereafter in the annals: at †Pithay-gate, Needlefs-gate, and at Bridewell, once called Monks bridge, (formerly a place of great strength, fortified with bulwarks and a tower, which give name to Tower-lane in its neighbourhood) there were afterwards and still remain bridges for the better communication with other places.

From the description already given it appears how well the old town was situated and secured on all sides, with every kind of defence by nature as well as Art. By the neighbouring hilly ground of St. Austin, St. Brandon-hill, ‡ St. Michael's and Kingfdown hills, with the river Froom running in

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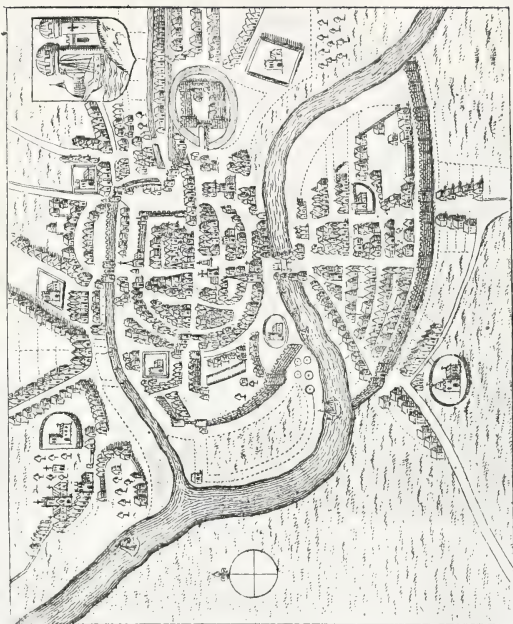
\* Or Ellebridge, so called in old writings from Elle, lord of the castle; now the street next it is corruptly called Ellbroad-street, for Ellebridge-street.

† Pithay was formerly called the Putte, or pit, from its low site; and the gate of old had the name of pons Aylwardi, Aylward's-gate, from Aylward, the Saxon governor of Bristol; of whom see the chapter on the castle.

‡ In the county of Kerry, in Ireland, there is a very high mount, called Brandon-hill, with the remains of a small oratory on its summit, dedicated to St. Brandon, who founded a monastery, (Clonsfert,) in the year 558.









a winding channel underneath was it environed on the north side; by Redcliff, Pyle Hill and the river Avon on the south, by the Castle very defensible on the east; being seated on a hill, in a valley betwixt these hills, it has given occasion to its being compared to ancient Rome on its seven hills, its ground plot like that being nearly circular, with a somewhat greater diameter one way than another, enough to make it oval, the river cutting off one part about a sixth from the rest; like it indeed a great part of the city in its improved state is situated on several hills.

A place so happily seated as Bristol soon began to extend its ancient boundaries beyond the first erected walls, and how far, appears by the plan annexed. Redcliff side becoming large and populous was soon added to the city, which very early became a borough town, defended by a castle. Andrew De Chesne (*Gesta Steph.*) thus describes it as in the time of King Stephen: "*Est Bristoa civitas omnium fere regionis civitatum opulentissima, &c.*" i. e. "Brisflow is the richest city almost of all the cities of this country, receiving merchandize from neighbouring and foreign places with the ships under sail, sit in a very fertile part of England, and by situation the most defensible of any city in England; for as we read of Brundisium, a certain part of the county of Gloucester is here confined in form of a tongue, and stretched out into length; two rivers washing its two banks, one on each side, and in its lower parts where the ground sinks, joining together into one flow of water, form the city: a quick and strong sea tide, flowing up night and day, occasions the rivers from both parts of the city to ebb into the broad and deep sea, making a most safe and convenient port for a thousand ships; and so strictly inclosed is its circuit, that the whole city seems to swim in the waters, and wholly to be set on the river banks."

This admirably describes the city every high tide, when the rivers being full give it this appearance. William of Malmesbury, in the time of Henry 2d. (*de Gestis Pontif.* p. 283 fol.) thus describes it: "*In eadem valle est vicus celeberrimus Brisflow nomine in qua navium portus ab Hibernia & Norwegia et cæteris transmarinis terris venientium receptaculum, ne scilicet genitalibus divitiis tam fortunata regio (Gloucestriensis) perigrinarum opum fraudaretur commercio.*"

Lord Lyttelton, (in his excellent work, the Life of Henry 2d. vol. ii. p. 177.) quotes Malmesbury's authority, "that Bristol was then full of ships from Ireland, Norway, and every part of Europe, which brought hither great commerce and much foreign wealth." And if a place of such trade so early, we may be well assured, that the buildings of the city must be very



numerous and flourishing, and have been improving long before, as trade always brings together a conflux of inhabitants.

The uniting of Redcliff with the city, by means of a bridge, seems to have been one grand step towards this great improvement, or rather the effect of the population and continual resort of settlers; who, impatient of the narrow confines of their first erected town walls, attempted to enlarge their boundaries and erect buildings beyond them, and to join by a bridge their neighbours of Redcliff, by a free, uninterrupted communication; having no other at one time but by means of a ferry at St. Thomas-slip, and perhaps some other part of the river.

These buildings were constructed chiefly on the north and west side of the town. A monastery, dedicated to St. Augustin in 1148, a priory to St. James, and other religious houses, began to be established through the favour and opulence of great men, and the charitable disposition of the people. And where these houses devoted to religion rose, there the inhabitants flocked; as if desirous of dwelling near those consecrated buildings, and under the protection of those saints and martyrs, to whom the sacred enclosures were dedicated, and which they were instructed the Deity honoured with his more immediate presence.

Leland has enumerated the several religious houses in Bristow in his time, vol. vii. fol. 70, second edit. of his Itinerary.

“ Howfys sumtyme of religion in Brightstowe. — Fanum Augustini, nunc S. Trinitatis: Inscriptio in porta. There be three tombes of the Barkeleys in the south isle agayne the quiere. Fanum St. Jacobi; it standithe by Brode Meade by northe from the castle, on an hilly grounde, and the ruines of it standithe hard buttynge to the este ende of the parochie church, non longe a dextra ripa Frai, (i. e. not far from the right bank of Froom.) St. Magdalene's; a howse of Nunes\* suppressyd, on the north syde of the towne. The Gauntes: one Henry Gaunte, a knight, sometyme dwellinge not farre from Brandon-hyll by Brightstow, erectyd a college of priestes with a master, on the green of St. Augustine. Hospitales in ruin. Fanum <sup>1</sup> Barptolomei. Fanum <sup>2</sup> trium regum juxta Barptolemeos extra Froome-gate. Aliud <sup>3</sup> non procul, &c. i. e. Another not far off, on the right bank of Froom as you go to the priory of St.

\* On St. Michael's-hill, now the site of an inn, the King David.

<sup>1</sup> The hospital of St. Bartholomew, once the city-school, now Queen Elizabeth's Boys' hospital.

<sup>2</sup> The house and chapel of the Three Kings of Cologne, an almshouse at the upper end of Steep-street, in St. Michael's parish.

<sup>3</sup> Now Spencer's almshouse on the banks of Froom in Lewin's-mead, 1460.



St. James, in Lionsmede-street. One <sup>4</sup> in Temple-strete. Another <sup>5</sup> by St. Thomas-strete. St. John's, <sup>6</sup> by Radeclef. An hospitall <sup>7</sup> S. Trinitatis hard within Lafforde's-gate. The Tukker's hospitall in Temple: the Weevers' hospitall in Temple-strete. <sup>8</sup> There was an hospital of old tyme where of late a nunrye was, caulld S. Margaret's.

"The Grey Friers' howse <sup>9</sup> was on the right ripe of From Watar, not far from St. Barptolme's hospital. The Blake Friers <sup>10</sup> stode a litle highar than the Gray, on Frome in the right ripe of it: Ser Maurice Gaunt, elder brother to Ser Henry Gaunt, foundar of the Gaunts, was foundar of this. The White Fryers <sup>11</sup> stode on the righte rype of Frome agayn the Key. The Auguſtine Friers' howse <sup>12</sup> was hard bye Temple-gate wytheine it northe welle."

In another place, vol. v. f. 64. or p. 60. 2d edit. he mentions, "St. Auguſtine's Blake Chanons <sup>13</sup> extra mœnia (without the walls) ibique in magni area facellum, in quo ſepultus eſt S. Jordanus, unus ex diſcipulis Auguſtini Anglorum apoſtoli. A houſe without the waulles, as I remembre, cawld the Gauntes, <sup>14</sup> otherwyſe Bôn Hommes. [iiii] howſes <sup>15</sup> of Freres, of the which the White Fryers place ys very fair."

Befides theſe hospitals mentioned by Leland, there were others mentioned in the will of John Gaywode, 1471, thus:

"Pauperes fraternitatis St. Joannis Baptiſtæ in eccleſia St. Audæni; domus Elemoſynar. de Long Row Burtoni: domus Elemoſynaria Richardi Foſter juxta Redcliff-gate; pauperes de lazarehouſe de Brightbowe; pauperes domus

H 2

Wil.

<sup>4</sup> Spicer's hospital, on the weſt ſide within Temple-gate.

<sup>5</sup> Burton's almhouſe, founded 1292.

<sup>6</sup> St. John's, in Redcliff-pit, near St. John's-lane there.

<sup>7</sup> Trinity hospital, on both ſides the way juſt within Lawford's-gate, the upper end of the Old Market.

<sup>8</sup> Still in being there with ſome endowment; ſee chap. on Temple pariſh.

<sup>9</sup> Oppoſite Spencer's almhouſe in Lewin's-mead, now a fugar-houſe, founded in 1274.

<sup>10</sup> On the Wear, now the ſite of the Quaker's Meeting-houſe, 1229.

<sup>11</sup> On Frier's-hill, next Pipe-lane, in the pariſh of St. Auguſtine, now the ſite of Mr. Colſon's hospital and other buildings. It extended back to the Red Lodge.

<sup>12</sup> On the eaſt ſide juſt within Temple-gate, oppoſite Temple pipe conduit, now the ſite of the Great Garden; called alſo Spring Gardens.

<sup>13</sup> The cathedral of the Holy Trinity in College-green.

<sup>14</sup> The Mayor's chapel.

<sup>15</sup> The White, the Grey, the Black, and Auguſtinian.

To theſe add St. Sepulchre's in Bell-lane, near St. Laurence church, now warehouſes, where was a nunnery.





Wil. Canynges super montem de Redcliff, 1442 : domus Elemofynaria Johannis Spicer juxta portam Templi; pauperes Fraternitatis Sanctæ Catherinæ; pauperes & egeni apud Aulam Fullonum; domus Elemofynaria prope ecclesiam omnium sanctorum; pauperes St. Joannis de la Redclive-pytt; carcerati egentes de Monkebrigge (or Bridewell); pauperes domus Elemofynariæ sanctæ Trinitatis juxta Laford's-gate." — To all these he was a benefactor.

Others also have arisen since, or succeeded some gone to ruin; as St. John's and All Saints' almshouse, new built; the Merchant Taylors' almshouse, in Merchant-street; Colston's almshouse for old men and widows, on St. Michael's-hill; the Merchants' almshouse, in King-street; St. Nicholas almshouse, in the same street; all which are well built, and have excellent accommodations for the poor, some are also amply endowed. Add to these that spacious and general asylum for the poor, the old, the infirm, the diseased, and the helpless, St. Peter's hospital, the public poor-house of the city, near St. Peter's church, the Orphan school for poor boys, called Queen Elizabeth's hospital, formerly next College-green, now removed into Christmas-street; as also the great school for poor boys, called Colston's hospital, on St. Augustine's-back, in which one hundred boys are clothed, fed, and educated, from seven years of age till fourteen, when each has 15l. given him at his going out to an apprenticeship.

The chapels, religious houses, churches, hospitals, and almshouses, are particularly noticed and the measurements of them as they stood in 1480, in William Botoner's book, extracts of which will be given in the particular description of each as it occurs.

In the register of William of Wickham, Bishop of Winchester, is the following particular of the chapel of St. Brendan: "Ibidem 14 die Augusti, 1403 dominus concessit, &c." i. e. "he granted to all benefactors to the chapel of St. Brendan nigh Bristol and to Reginald Taillor the poor hermit of it, forty days of indulgence by his letters for one year only to continue;" by which it appears there was an hermitage of religious here with a chapel dedicated to St. Brandon an Irish Saint. And in an old Latin deed relating to the Gaunts, I find a piece of ground or croft juxta pasturam sancti Brendani, near the field of St. Brendan held by a female recluse or hermit — quam reclusa tenuit. In the year 1351, Lucy de Newchirche repeatedly offered to the Bishop of Worcester and desired leave to be shut up in the hermitage of St. Brendan of Bristol, and to quit the world, which after due inquiry into her conduct and purity of life and necessary virtues for it, was granted



granted her: as we find by this deed, E. Registris Wygorniaë, Thoresby f. 21 a

Commissio ad includendam Luciam de New Chirche Anchoritam.

Johannes miseratione divina Episcopus &c Salutem; dilecto filio magistro Johanni d' Severley Archidiacono nostro Wygornienfi gratiam & benedictionem: accedens ad nos Lucia de New Chirche se Anchoritam in Heremitorio St. Brendani de Bristol nostræ dioceseos cum instante et humili devotione, prout nobis per sui gellus habitum apparebat, includi repetitis vicibus postulavit. Nosque de vita & conversatione predictæ Luciæ notitiam non habentes vobis, de vestra fidelitate & industria & circumspeditione plenius in domino confidimus, ad inquirendum per viros & mulieres fide dignos de conversatione illius Luciæ; & si eam vitæ laudabilis esse et mundæ & alia virtutum insignia quæ in hunc mundum relinquentibus vigere deberunt, in ea pollere perpenderitis: ac diebus & temporibus, prout expediens fuerit ac juri consonum & rationi eidem pro sui examinatione vestro arbitrio assignandis, ipsam in mundo proposito perseverantem inveneritis & constantem, super quo vestram coram Deo conscientiam oneramus, eam in dicto Heremitorio Anchoritam includendi per vos vel alium vobis quantum cum Deo possumus inoffenso jure, committimus vices nostras. Dat. London: 7 die Maii Anno Dom. millesimo CCC<sup>mo</sup> LI<sup>o</sup> & translationis nostræ 2d<sup>o</sup>.

Besides these Chapels noted by Leland, there was also the chapel of St. Giles annexed however to St. Leonard's in 1301, and there were others of a much earlier foundation, and so old as not even to be seen in their ruins in his time. — The following I met with in an old manuscript *penes me* in Chatterton's hand writing from Rowleie.

" St. Baldwyns Chapelle in Baldwyns-street: Brightike haveing made it  
 " ynto a house, Kyng Harrie secundus in hys yinge daies was there taughte:  
 " yn the wall of it was an Ymagerie of a Saxonne Abthane crabbattelle  
 " ywroghtenne with a mantille of Estate which yonge Harrie enthoughten to  
 " be moke syner dresse thenne hys, causeynge the same to be quaintiffen yn  
 " elenge selke & broderie; thus came Courte dresse from a Bristol Yma-  
 " gerie.

" St. Mary Magdelens Chapelle: founded by Elle Ld. Warden of the  
 " Castle near Elle-gate, sythence ycleped New-gate. Yn thys Chapelle of  
 " the Castle was ysworne a Treatye between Goodwyne Earle of Kent,  
 " Harold estfoons Kyng of Englande, Leofwinus, hys Broders, & other  
 " Nobles of the Londe.



" St. Matthyas is Chapelle—Thys Chapelle was fyrst ybelden bye  
 " Alwarde a Saxonne ynnē 867 & ys now (about the year 1460) made of the  
 " old walles of the same a Free Maconnes Logge, of wyche same amme I  
 " unwordie & Maſtre Canyge Brendren; ytte ys cleped Canynges place,  
 " Canynges Logge & Lyon Logge.

" Seyncte Austins Chapple: Thys freemied pyle ytte is uncouth to ſaie,  
 " whom the ſame dyd ybuyld. But it mote nedes be eld: ſythence it was  
 " yn ruyn in the days of Wm. le Baſtarde, The dribblette remains wyll  
 " ſhewe yts aunciauntrie and nice Carvellynge—An aunciaunte Bochorde  
 " faieth, Geoffrie a norman Carveller dyd newe adorne the ſame in Edward  
 " Confeſſors daies." This chapel ſtood next the ſine gate leading to the  
 " lower Green.——In another manuſcript by the ſame alſo is thus deſ-  
 " cribed " Seyncte Baudwins Chappelle: yt ſtooden ynn Baudwynne Street:  
 " the preeſte thereof toke Churſotte of alle boates paſſeyng the brydge of  
 " woode there ſtandeynge. Brighticke Erle made ytte ynto a dwellynge  
 " houſe for wych faſt Godds Ire dyd hym overtake & he deceaſyd yn pry-  
 " ſon: ſome ſaie hys Corſe was forewyned as ſtryken wythe a Levyn Brond—  
 " After his putting it to lay uſe K. Harolde lodged there, Robertus Fitz-  
 " Harding lyved there. To this daie ſtandeth the Croſs yn the Glebe whi-  
 " lom the Glebe or Church-yard nempt Baldwyns Croſſe." This houſe is  
 " now called the Back-hall in the ſame ſtreet, for weighing and houſing goods  
 " on the Back. There was hereabouts one called in ſome manuſcripts St. John's  
 " chapel.

The churches in the city of Briſtol being formerly eighteen beſides the Cath-  
 edral with the chapels and churches now conſolidated with others, had of old  
 ſeveral chauntries belonging to each, as will appear more particularly in the  
 enſuing hiſtory of each parochial church; but the following table will give  
 a general account of them in the year 1547 when " the worſhipful John  
 Cottrel, Dr. of Laws, Vicar General to Paul Buſh, the firſt Biſhop of  
 Briſtol, ſequeſtered to the King's uſe all fruits, profits, emoluments whatſoever  
 &c. for non-payment of ſubſidies and tenths then due, on the firſt May and  
 at Chriſtmas laſt paſt, and made John Rumney keeper of them ſo ſequeſtered"  
 1ſt Apr. A. D. 1547. 1. Edw. vi.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
The monaſtry of St. Auguſtin near Briſtol,	-	-	67 16 0 $\frac{3}{4}$
The hoſpital or houſe of Gaunts or St. Mark,	-	-	11 4 11 $\frac{3}{4}$
The hoſpital or Domus Calendar,	-	-	1 1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
A chantry by Wm. Dean there	-	-	0 16 0
Another by Sir Thomas Merryfield	-	-	0 16 0

The



				<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
			The rectory of the Holy Trinity, [the yearly tenths]	1	2	0
			A chantry by Richard Erle in the same church,	0	13	4
			A chantry by Catharine Jonys there, - - - -	0	12	8
			A chantry by Rob. Alef and Roger Cantock, -	0	8	0
			Another by Thomas Ball, - - - - -			
			The rectory of the church of St. John the Baptist,	0	14	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
			Chantries founded by Walter Frampton, - - -	1	1	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
			A chantry there by Thomas Rowley, - - -	0	14	0
			The vicarage of St. Leonard, [the yearly tenths]	1	4	0
<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	The rectory of St. Stephen, - - - - -	1	2	0
7	13	4	A chantry there founded by Richard White, -	0	15	4
3	0	0	Another there by the same, - - - - -	0	6	0
6	0	0	Another there by Thomas Belcher, - - - -	0	12	0
6	0	0	Another there by Edward Blanket, - - - -	0	12	0
			The rectory of the church of St. Audoen, - -	0	6	8
			The vicarage of All-Saints [the yearly tenths]	-	0	8 4
			A chantry by Thomas Holway, - - - - -	0	13	4
			The rectory of St. Lawrence [the yearly tenths]	0	8	9 $\frac{3}{4}$
			A chantry there by Cecily Pollard, - - - -	0	12	0
			The rectory of St. Werburge, - - - - -	1	0	0
			A chantry there by John Foster, - - - - -	0	14	0
			The rectory of St. Mychael, - - - - -	0	12	0
			The vicarage of St. Augustine, - - - - -	0	12	0
			The rectory of St. Peter, - - - - -	0	12	9
			The rectory of St. Mary in foro, [tenths]	-	0	14 0
			The vicarage of the church of St. Phillip, - -	1	10	0
			A chantry there by John Kemys, - - - -	0	12	0
			Another by Robert Forthey, - - - - -	0	12	0
			The vicarage of the church of St. Nicholas, - -	2	2	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
12	7	11	A chantry there by Richard Spycer, - - -	1	4	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
26	3	9	Four chantries there by Everard le French, - -	2	12	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
5	0	0	Another by William Spencer, - - - - -	0	10	0
13	6	8	Two chantries by Thomas Knapp, - - - -	1	6	8
			St. Mary's chapel on the bridge, a chantry there			
6	13	4	by Edward le French, - - - - -	0	13	4
			The church of St. James, a chantry there by			
			William Ponam, - - - - -	0	12	0

Another





	l.	s.	d.
Another by John Spyker, - - - - -	0	10	8
A chantry of the Holy Crofs in All-Saints church, - - - - -	0	16	0
Another chantry there, - - - - -	0	16	0
The hospital of St. John the Baptist in Bristol, - - - - -	5	3	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
The house of St. Mary Magdalen, - - - - -	2	3	9 $\frac{1}{4}$
The rectory of St. Mary port, - - - - -	0	10	7
The vicarage of the church of St. Mary de Redcliff, [tenths] - - - - -	1	4	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
A chantry by William Canyngs there, - - - - -	1	6	8
A chantry there by Richard Mede, - - - - -	0	14	0
In the church of St. Thomas, two chantries there by John Stokes, - - - - -	1	0	0
A chantry by John Burton, - - - - -	0	13	4
Two chantries by Robert Chepe and others, - - - - -	0	13	4
The vicarage of Holy Crofs, alias le Temple, - - - - -	0	6	5
A chantry there by John Frances, - - - - -	0	10	3 $\frac{1}{4}$

These were the churches chapels and chauntries therein celebrated, fequestred to the King's use ; — of which chauntries more particular notice will be taken in the account of each parish church.

In a manuscript entituled Liber Taxationum Beneficiorum in Anglia, now in the Bodleian Library at Oxford, taken 19th year of Edward 1st. 1291, is the following account, — In the Archdeaconry of Gloucester and Deanry of Bristol.

Ecclesia St. Stephani, - - - - -	7 Marc. dimid.
Portio abbatis Glastoniæ in eadem, - - - - -	10 Sol.
Portio abbatis de Keynsham in Ecclesia St. Laurentii, - - - - -	2 Sol.
Portio prioris, St. Jacobi in Eccles. St. Joannis, - - - - -	10 Sol.
Ecclesia St. Michaelis, - - - - -	6 Marc. dimid.
Portio St. Jacobi. - - - - -	4 Sol.
Ecclesia St. Warebrigge, - - - - -	6 Marc. dimid.
Portio abbatis de Keynsham in ecclesiâ Beat. Mariæ, - - - - -	20 Sol.
Portio abbatis St. Augustini in ecclesiâ omnium sanctorum, - - - - -	30 Sol.
Portio ejusdem abbatis in ecclesia St. Augustini minoris, - - - - -	1 Marc.
Ecclesia St. Nicolai, - - - - -	6 Marc.
Portio vicarii in eadem, - - - - -	7 Marc. dimid.
Portio prioris St. Jacobi in ecclesia St. Petri, - - - - -	11 Sol.

Ecclesia



Ecclesia St. Trinitatis, - - - - - 7 Marc. dimid.

Ecclesia St. Jacobi, - - - - - 23 Marc.

Ex exactissimo sacrarum ædium catalogo cum annuo valore e Dugd. Mon.  
Anglic. v. 1. p. 1039.

	Glocest.	l.	s.	d.
Can. St. Aug. Bristol ab. St. Aug.	- - - - -	670	13	11 ob.
Can. St. Aug. St. Marc. hosp. alias Gaunt's, (alias Bilyfwyke,)	- - - - -	112	9	9 o.
St. Laurence hospital,	- - - - -	51	10	4 o.
Kalendar. domus,	- - - - -	10	18	8 o.
B. M. Magd. domus,	- - - - -	21	11	3 o.
Westbury colleg.	- - - - -	232	14	0 o.
St. Catherin. hospital,	- - - - -	21	15	8 o.
Bendict. Tewksbury abb. cum cella Jacobi,	- - -	1598	1	3 o.
	Somerfet.			
Keynsham abb.	- - - - -	419	14	3 o.
Mynchinbarrow,	- - - - -	23	14	3 o.
Temple Comb comandria,	- - - - -	107	16	11 o.
Bridgwater priory,	- - - - -	120	19	1. ob.

The nineteen churches have been thus enumerated in Latin verse.

De ædibus sacris urbe spectabilibus.

Sunt ædes, quarum surgentia culmina cælo  
Formosam reddunt spectanti turribus urbem :  
Redclivia, & Thomas, Templum, Phillippus & omnes  
Sancti, Augustinus, Nicolæque, Maria, Johannes,  
Audænus, Petrus, Micael, ecclesia Christi,  
Werbungæ et Stephani, nova Pauli, itemque Jacobi,  
Gautes, pontificis tandem speciosa Cathedra,  
In quibus æternæ tractantur verba salutis :  
Hæc jactant variis sese præcellere rebus,  
Una suam jactat structuram, atque altera tectum,  
Altera sublimem, qua tendit ad æthera turrim :  
Concamerata sibi jactant fundamina quædam,  
Atque sepulchretum quædam; sunt tumque fenestras  
Suntque pavementum jactantes, sunt quoque multæ  
Quæ sibi campanas guadent jactare sonoras,  
Altera prægrandes, atque altera jactat amænas,  
Altera se numero reliquas superare triumphat.  
Sed quibus ulla putat claram sese esse scorsim,  
Omnibus his junctis jactat transcendere Redcliff.



Of these places of religious institution, and of the hospitals or almshouses, a more particular description and account will be given in the parochial history hereafter.

The city, by the virtue \* and industry of our ancestors, and by the unwearied application of its merchants and inhabitants to trade (not to be taught to undergo poverty †) became daily more and more populous, and increased not only in extending its buildings on every side but also in its credit, opulence, and rank, in this commercial nation. A work was now set on foot, which, for its boldness, grandeur, and design in benefiting posterity, would do honour even to the present age: it was no less than turning the course of the river From, filling up its old channel, and digging a new one, to make the Key or Quay for the safe birthing of the ships, by which they at low water grounded on a safe bed of mud, with less danger to their bottoms: which is excellently described by Leland, vol. vii. 2d edit. fol. 70. or p. 87.

“ The haven by Avon flowithe about a two miles above Brightstowe-bridge.  
 “ The ships of olde tyme cam only up by Avon to a place caullyd the Bek,  
 “ where was and is deplite enowghe of watar, but the bottom is very stony  
 “ and rughe; fens by polceye they trenched somewhat alofe by northe-westle  
 “ of the old Key on Avon anno 1247, and in continuance bringing the course  
 “ of From-ryver that way hath mad a softe and whosy (oozy) harborow for  
 “ grete shippes.”

This

\* *Virtute et Industria*, is the motto of the Bristol arms; a due regard to it will ever preserve its honour and renown to latest posterity. — The old arms of the city of Bristol are, gules, a castle upon an hill by the sea-side, and the helm of a ship passing by, all proper; to which were afterwards added, supporters, &c. See the prints.



† *Indocilis pauperem pati*, the motto of the arms of the Merchant Venturers here. The arms of the Merchants' Society are, barry undè of eight pieces argent and azure on a bend or, a dragon volant vert, on a chief g. a lion passant gardant or, between two bezants.



This enterprize of making a new key, and of constructing a stone bridge across the Avon, and joining to Bristol Redcliff side, (which though before a part of the city yet belonging to the honour of Gloucester, was under a separate government till the charter of Henry 3d. (which see in the annals for the year,) was undertaken about the same time, and formed together one grand complete scheme, which made such amazing alterations, was attended with such beneficial consequences to the community, that it ought justly to be signalized apart as a particular æra, from whence to date the rise of those great improvements that followed; advancing, with a rapid progress, the honour, riches, and commercial interests of this city: which, by the virtue and industry of its citizens, has rose to its present grandeur and dignity in the nation; and that alone reflects greater honour on Bristol than any thing that we have said or can say in its praise for its antiquity, the only thing many places, more extolled in chronicles or old histories, have now left to boast of; whilst this, like a well cultivated spot, has been continually flourishing with renewed vigour, extending its commerce to the most distant regions, enlarging its antient bounds by additional buildings and magnificent public structures, and has thus merited its antient Saxon name Brightstowe, i. e. an illustrious city, by becoming yearly more and more illustrious.

Previous to constructing the stone bridge and making the new key, in the year 1239 our prudent forefathers purchased of the then abbot of St. Augustin, William de Bradestone and the convent, ground in the marsh of St. Augustin sufficient for their purpose of making the new trench, haven, or quay: a copy of the original covenant between them follows.

“ *Conventio facta inter abbatem & conventum St. Augustini, Bristollia, & maiorem & communiam Bristollia, de terra in marisco St. Augustini versus aquam de Frome.*

“ *Hæc est conventio facta inter dominum Willielmum de Bradestone, tunc abbatem sancti Augustini Bristollia & ejusdem loci conventum ex unâ parte, & Ricardum Aillard, tunc maiorem Bristol & totam communiam Bristollia ex altera parte: scilicet quod dictus abbas & conventus concesserunt pro se & successoribus suis in perpetuum maiori & communia Bristollia, et eorum heredibus totam terram illam in marisco St. Augustini Bristollia quæ jacet extra fossatum, quod circuit terram arabilem dictorum canonicorum directe versus orientem usque ad marginem portûs Frome: quod quidem fossatum extenditur a grangia dictorum canonicorum versus Abonam; salvis abbati & conventui predicto terrâ proximâ dicto fossato versus grangiam predictam, ubi dicta communia incipit fossare septies viginti & quatuor pedibus terræ in latitudine et in*





medio dicti marisci quater viginti & duodecim pedibus terræ in latitudine; & in exteriori parte dicti marisci versus Abonam sexaginta pedibus terræ in latitudine, super quam terram sic mensuratum communia Bristollia & eorum hæredes habere debent liberum iter suum, introitum & exitum & transitum ad naves suas & ad spatiandum pro voluntate eorum de die & nocte, longe & proxime, pacifice & sine contradictione in perpetuum, sicut semper hæredes consueverunt: debent autem prædicta communia & eorum hæredes salvare abbati & conventui prædicto et successoribus suis eandem terram mensuratam ita scilicet quod in cursus aquæ terram deterioraverit, dicta communia illam debet emendare: residuam vero terram dicti marisci Sancti Augustini Bristollia ex orientali parte & australi prædicti fossati debent prædicta communia & eorum hæredes integre habere et possidere ad faciendam inde unam trenchiam, portum & quicquid dictæ communiæ melius servierit absque omni impedimento & contradictione in perpetuum: pro hac concessione siquidem & pro bono pacis dederunt prædicti maior & communia Bristollia prædicto abbati et conventui novem marcas argenti: unde ut hæc concessio rata et stabili permaneat, tam sigillum prædicti conventus quam sigillum communitatis Bristollia mutua appenda sunt huic chirographo: hiis testibus Domino Johanne filio Galfridi, Thoma de Berkleia, Rob. de Gourney, W. de Pycott, Ignatio de Clyfton, Rogero de Warre de Knolle, Johanne le Warre de Brixulton & aliis; facta autem conventio vigilia annunciationis beatæ Mariæ, anno regni Domini regis H. filii J. viceesimo quarto." — A. D. 1239, 24th Hen. 3d.

By this the abbot grants to the mayor, Richard Aillard and the commonalty of Bristol, all the land lying without a certain ditch of theirs, that surrounded their arable land, directly towards the east unto the brink of the haven of From, which ditch extended from the Grange of the Cannons towards the Avon. The ground next the said ditch towards the Grange, where the commonalty began to dig, being reserved to the abbot and convent, seven score and four feet broad; in the middle, four score and twelve feet broad; and in the outer part of the said marsh towards the Avon, sixty feet broad. Upon the ground so measured out, the commonalty of Bristol and their heirs were to have free passage, ingress and egress, to their ships in the new trench or quay, and to walk as they pleased, by night or by day, without let or molestation for ever: but the city was obliged to amend and repair the lands so measured out, if by the current of water it should be damaged. The remaining ground of the said marsh of St. Augustin, from the east and south part of the ditch, the mayor and commonalty of Bristol were to have wholly and possess, in order to make from thence one trench, haven, or whatever should best serve



serve their purpose, without hindrance, for ever, paying nine marks of silver.

This grant being obtained, it was not long before they put the work in execution. Some dispute has arisen betwixt the Corporation of Bristol and the Dean and Chapter, who are now in the stead of the Abbot and Convent aforementioned, concerning the limits of this ground on St. Augustine's back, granted unto the city by this deed, and it is yet undecided in the year 1788. It appears that some years after the above grant the Abbot sued the city for trespassing upon the privileges of his monastery, where he held a court of view of frank pledge and a sanctuary except for treason, and complains, "quod non faciunt reparationes circa littora aquæ vocatæ Frome devastantis terram dicti abbatis sicut tenentur," meaning doubtless the land secured to the Abbot by the above grant; — by which it is clear that a large portion of ground was given to the commonalty of Bristol, then called Avon marsh, lying on the east side of the same river, by the abbot and convent, on condition that the said Mayor and commonalty should defend from the water Frome a certain parcel of ground belonging to the monastery and adjoining the same, which in the time of Abbot John Newland was by them neglected, to the great damage of the ground called Cannons marsh; which was one great cause of dispute in Henry 7th's. time betwixt them. (Great white Book p. 18, 6.) In 1496, 11th Henry 7th the contest was compromised by the Lord Chief Justice and Lord Chancellor — (p. 36 G. white Book) during the dispute the Mayor forbade the burgeses to sell any provisions to the convent, grinding corn at their mill called then Trenel now Trin-mill, hindred the course of justice and performed many other ill offices.

The following was the petition of the Abbot by which the cause of the dispute will appear.

#### Supplicatio Abbatis.

1. Pro denariis levatis & districtionibus captis de tenentibus infra privilegium Monasterii Sancti Augustini juxta Bristol eidem reddendis & sub injunctioe pecuniaria ne iterum facere presumpserit.

2. Pro victualibus & aliis necessariis emendis vel vendendis nullum posita fiat impedimentum.

3. Quod inhabitantes Bristoliam volentes grana sua molere ad molendina dicti Abbatis non impediuntur.

4. Quod fiat executio justitiæ in causis dicti Abbatis sine dilatione vel cavillatione.

5. Quod reddant Terras & redditus detentos prædicto Abbati.

6. Quod



6. Quod faciant reparationes circe litora aquæ vocatæ Frome devaſtantis terram diſti Abbatis

To exactly aſcertain the ground ſpecified in the deed would now be very difficult, the limits being deſtroyed and the places ſo much altered by time; but in general we may aſſert, that ſo much ground as is parted from St. Auguſtin's ſide and now makes the channel of the river Frome and the Quay, was fully aſſured to the city by this grant; and a privilege alſo allowed the citizens of ſo much more ground as is there mentioned to be meaſured out next the Grange and towards the Avon for their uſe of going to their ſhipping, &c: and this indeed was all that was wanting to compleat the work. They began digging and forming the new channel from the Key conduit towards the Gib, unto the place beyond the Grange of the Monaſtery, which I ſuppoſe to be below Toms's dock, the ditch incloſing Cannon's marſh beginning there about: by which neither the water of the Avon or the Frome interrupted the work. — The trench thus dug towards the Avon and then towards the Frome ſeparated the marſh of Briſtol (now built into a ſquare) whence the name of Marſh-ſtreet from the marſh of St. Auguſtine (now called Cannons marſh) partly built on and converted to the uſe of a dock, timber yard, rope walk and dwelling houſes, the privilege of paſſing to and fro there, being retained to this day. — As they were obliged by the covenant to keep on the outſide of this ditch, they were confined to that direction and could not make it quite ſtraight, eſpecially oppoſite the marſh of St. Auguſtin, where it is a little winding, till it opens into the Avon. From whence having dug quite to the preſent head of the quay or quay-conduit, (as ſome manuſcripts have it) where the river Frome in a winding courſe followed the walls of the city in its natural current to Baldwin-ſtreet; this new communication with the Avon was effected, that through Baldwin-ſtreet being ſtopped up, the Frome changed its courſe and ever after paſſed through this new channel, which being enlarged and walled, makes a ſafe and convenient quay, equal if not ſuperior to any in the kingdom, being a mile and a quarter round from the head of the quay to Briſtol bridge; and the ſhips are admitted by it into the miſt of the city.

In ſeveral manuſcripts *penes me* the digging the quay is variously expreſſed; one by Adams in 1626 has it, “Anno 1245, (Richard Alayne mayor, William Concord and John Northfolk prepoſitors) a trench was made and caſt at Gibtaylor up to the brazen ſtock of the key by the Mayor and commonalty of the town.” Another thus, “Anno 1240, 24 Henry 3d. as Elicaut's Kalendar ſays, ſome ſay in 1245, 1246, 1247, the trench or key

was



was made from Gybb Tailleir \* to the key conduit as well those of Redcliffward and of Temple see as of the town of Bristol taking their turns in the labour and charge: the Froom running before along Baldwin-street where it drove a mill called Baldwin's cross-mill, and fell into the Avon near a place where now stands the Back hall, then was the old channel dammed up and formed into a street, to which there was an easy back passage and communication from St. Leonard's church as far as St. Nicholas church, though in two places in St. Nicholas-street there was a descent by a flight of steps for foot passengers. Before this time Cannons marsh took in all those places where are now the Key, Gibb Tailleir and Princes-street, and the ground next Marsh-street, the site of part of which formed what was called Chanters close and was exchanged by the Corporation with Sir William a Bradstone the abbot for the Treen-mills with reservation of the privilege of hunting the duck there for the disport of the magistrates, as one manuscript declares, but another says it was granted upon a reservation of a yearly rent, but the kalendar says in general it was purchased for a certain sum payed down at executing the grant:” which appears to be the truth, though it looks from such various relations of the facts that the bargain proceeded upon all these considerations. Leland gives a very just and particular relation of this whole transaction wherever he picked it up. “ The year of our Lord 1247 was the trenche made and cast of the river from the Gibb Taylor to the Key by the Comonalty as well as Redcliff syde as of the towne of Bristol; and the same tyme the inhabitants of Redcliffe were combined and incorporated to the aforesaide towne. And as for the grounde of Saynt Augustins syde of the river it was geven and granted to the comonalty of the fayed towne by Sir William Bradstone, then being Abbot of the same Monastery for certayne money therefore payed to him by the comonaltye, as it apperithe by writynge thereof made betwinge the Mayor and comonalty and the Abbote and his brethren.” In another place he thus describes the river Avon as (when the tide is in) filling the river and bringing in the shipping. “ Avon ryver about a quarter of a mile beneath the towne in a † meadow casteth up a great arm or gut by which the greater vessels as mayne toppe shippes cum up to the towne. So that Avon doth peninsulate the town and vessels may cum of both sides of it. I marked not well whither there cam any fresh water from the lande

\* Whence this name is derived is no where said — I find a man named Gilbert le Tailor, who might give rise to it.

† (Meadow, i. e. Cannons marsh) and the marsh of Bristol now Queen's-Square, betwixt which is the quay, dividing both.





lande to bete that arme." By this he saw it, I suppose, when it was high tide, when the little river Froom is lost in that of the Avon.

That the Key of Bristol was made at the joint expence of the men of Redcliff, as well as of those of the town of Bristol, appears evidently from a writ of mandamus sent to them by Henry 3d. dated 27th April, the 24th year of his reign, which I have translated from the Latin original. — " Henry, by the grace of God, King of England, Lord of Ireland, Duke of Normandy, Aquitaine, and Earl of Anjou, to all my honest men dwelling in la Redclive, in the suburb of Bristol, wisheth health. Since our beloved burgessees of Bristol, for the common profit of the town of Bristol as well as of your suburb, have begun a certain trench in the marsh of St. Augustin, that ships coming to our port of Bristol may more freely and without hindrance come in and go out, which trench indeed they cannot perfect without great charges; we therefore command you, that since from the bettering the said port no small advantage will accrue, not only to those burgessees, but also to you, who are partakers of the same liberties which our said burgessees have in the said town, and are joined with them both in scot and lot, that you lend the same assistance as they do; as it will be also very profitable and useful to you to have the work of the trench happily compleated, according to what shall fall to your share, together with our burgessees; and so effectually, that the aforesaid work, which we regard as our own, receive no delay, through any defect in you. Witness myself, at Wyndlesore, 29th April, 24th year of our reign." — Before this was made, the usual place, as Leland says, for landing goods out of the ships was at the Back,\* where was the old Custom-house, still remaining, having the arms of England in its front; and at St. Nicholas-port, above the bridge before that was built, where on taking down the shambles large Gothic arched cellars, running back almost into Maryport churchyard, were discovered, used formerly for reception of merchants' goods there landed: and an old mooring post was discovered in the ground on entering the north door of Maryport church itself, which post was removed about 1750. It appears, by a note in the great White Book in the Chamber of Bristol, that the cutting of this trench, for the course of the Froom through the Key, cost the commonalty of the city the sum of 5000l. a vast sum of money in those days. — Such a convenience to a trading city as this Quay, which admitted the ships laden up to the merchants' warehouses built near its banks, could not but be attended with the good consequence of promoting the commerce of the city. The Quay being compleated, and the marsh of Bristol thereby effectually divided

\* Back, or Bek, a Saxon word for a river.



divided from that of St. Augustin, houses and streets began to be built there; Marsh-street terminated with a chapel, dedicated to St. Clement, and a gate; and Back-street with a gate also, and a chapel near it, dedicated to St. John, and belonging to St. Nicholas; the church of St. Stephen and its dependent parish, and the buildings between the Back and the Quay, seem to have taken their rise at this period, and were all inclosed with a strong embattled wall, *externa* or *secunda mœnia urbis*, extending from the Key to the Back, where King-street has since been built. Vid. second plan of the city.

The inhabitants, now impelled thereto by a noble spirit of improving their city, not depressed by the consideration of expence attending the work, applied themselves to the business of erecting a permanent stone bridge across the Avon. That there was a wooden bridge there before the year 1247, the year in which all the manuscripts I have seen agree the stone bridge was erected, there is no sort of doubt. It is very unreasonable to suppose the contrary, as the city had been flourishing and very populous, and would certainly not labour under the great inconvenience of passing by boat a rapid river in the winter, as the only communication with their brethren of Redcliff. The river indeed was a proper separation of the kingdom of Mercia from that of the West Saxons, but as soon as the latter were possessed of Bristol, and Brightrick walled it, a better intercourse with the Redclivians, and between Somersetshire and Gloucestershire, than by an uncertain ferry, soon became necessary. Accordingly we find that there really was a wooden bridge there for some years, which, falling to decay and being unfit for the service required, was at this time pulled down and re-edified, in a more commodious and lasting manner, with thick stone piers and arches. London, in like manner, had no more than a wooden bridge till the year 1209, and Bristol seems to have copied it in that as well as in erecting a chapel and houses on the stone bridge after they had built one. It has been said indeed, that there was no bridge at Bristol over the Avon till 1247, the 31st of Henry 3d. but a charter of Henry 2d. without date, and the following grant from Robert Fitzharding quite disproves that matter. "Robert, the son of Harding, to  
 " all his friends and to all men present and future health. Know ye, that I  
 " have granted and confirmed that my men, who dwell in my fee in the marsh  
 " near the bridge of Bristol, have their customs and liberties, &c. which the  
 " men of Bristol have, as our Lord the King has granted unto them; and I  
 " will that they remain to them whole and full during my time, and that of  
 " my heirs. Witness, Richard Abbot of St. Augustin, William Prior, and  
 " others." Maurice de Berkly, son of the above Robert, confirmed to his



men of Redcliff, by his grant, the customs and liberties which they had in the time of his Father, and which were confirmed to them by his said father.

Now it appears, that it was in the time of Henry 2d's. reign that Robert Fitzharding made the above grant ; in which it appears, that the *men dwelling in the marsh* near the *bridge of Bristol* are the same men that afterwards are called by Maurice, in H. 3d.'s time, his *men of Redclive*: from whence it may be inferred, that Redcliff being low ground, liable to be flooded by the high tides, was first called the *marsh near the bridge*, and that a bridge was built there long before the trench was cut in the marsh by the Gibb, whether of wood or stone does not appear ; though I am most inclined to believe it was the former, the old stone bridge certainly not being built till 1247, the very time when the new trench or key was dug out, and From river diverted from its usual course through the Fish-market and Baldwin-street into it. This first bridge, which might probably be of wood, was said by William of Worcester to be made in 1215 by King John, and to contain 140 gressus, or 72 virgas, p. 366. (vid. annal. for that year below, in Henry 2d's. reign.)

William of Worcester, who wrote about the year 1480, meant doubtless the stone bridge then measured of the length he sets down, and supposed it to be the same built by King John ; but that was his mistake, as well as that King John founded any bridge here. We see by King Henry 2d's. charter that great prince,\* who seems to have signalized Bristol, the place of his education, with his favour, could alone be said to be the founder of a bridge here, as one is mentioned in his writ of mandamus, in the reign indeed a little before that of King John, which might have deceived William of Worcester, the Bristol antiquary. In a manuscript of one Mr. Lant, *penes me*, it is said, William Earl of Gloucester founded and annexed Redcliff to Bristol, supposing that the time of the foundation of a bridge. Leland also gives it to him in these words, in Cygn. Cant. Postea, ponte facto ; i. e. " afterwards a bridge being made, Redclive, on the left bank of the Avon, was added to Bristol, and defended with a strong wall, at the time when William Earl of Gloucester governed this county and especially Bristol."

How this stone bridge was constructed, I shall set down simply the account as it occurs in antient manuscripts, which generally agree all in the manner of relating this fact ; though some are more explicit than others. One, wrote in a very old hand in my possession, has it thus :

" 1247.

\* In the nich over Nicholas-gate, at the entrance of the Bridge, was a stone figure of a young prince (Henry 2d.) with a crown and sceptre, taken down and destroyed when that gate was removed, in 1760.



" 1247. This year the mayor and commonalty concluded to build a bridge over the river Avon, with the consent of Redcliff and the governors of Temple sec, thereby minding to incorporate them with the towne of Brightestowe, and so make of both but one corporate towne: for they passed by bote from St. Thomas slepp, unto St. Mary le Port to come to Brightestowe: for at that time the port was, where now St. Nicholas shambles is and there the shippinge did ride: for which cause the church is called the church of our Lady her Assumption, and the port St. Maryport: at that time noe water did run downe the key, but with one courrant did runne to the castle: for the mash of St. Austines syde was one mayne clofe called Chanters clofe, belonging to the Abby of St. Austines, and for the conveyinge the river from the poynte called the gibb, unto the key, the Mayor and commonalty as well of Temple syde as of the towne of Brightestowe boughte so much ground as is parted from St. Austins side of Sir William a Bradstone the abbot, for a certeine some of monie to him payd, as appeerthe by an old writeinge made betwene him and the mayor with the convent: and then the trench was digged for to bringe the river unto the key; for at that time a fresh river from behind the castle mills did run down under Froome gate bridge, and so throghe Baldwynne-strete now so called and it drived a mill called Baldwin's croffe-mill: and when the trench to the key was finished the water was stopped at the poynt against Redcliff; and all the while the foundatyon of the arches was layinge and the masons buildyng, the water did run under the bridges of Redcliff and Temple gates, being made for the same purpose: and at Tower Harris, or Harrats, the water was there bayed up, that it could not come down to hinder the building but it kept its current that way, and so the bridge being builded the beyes were broken down, and the current dothe ebb and flowe as it did formerlie. Then the fresh river that did run by Baldwins-crofs was dampned up, and made a streete. Thus these two townes were incorporated into one, both on Somersethshire side and Glocestershire side, that whereas they had usually on every Munday a great market at Stallenge croffe and in Brightestow every Wednesday and Friday at the High croffe \* and it was much trouble for people to pass from one side to the other, the bridge being built the market was kept in the High-street, at the High-croffe."

Such is the account given of this transaction; in which the mayor's Calendar by Ricaut, preserved in the Chamber of Bristol, and all the private ma-

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nuscripts

\* Some manuscripts say the market in Brightestowe was held in the Old Market now so called, and at this time was removed to the High-crofs which was there erected and adorned with figures.





manuscripts generally agree. Some indeed say, " it was done at the charge of the Mayor and Aldermen and with the consent and charges of Redcliff and of Temple fee;" and that " beside the large cut made from Tower Harris to Redcliff for the ebbing and flowing of the tide, the river Avon was damed up on each side the foundation:" — but this seems to be owing to the variety of transcripts, and different expressions of the copiers.

They pitched upon the same spot for this work where the ancient ferry was of old, and near the place where the wooden bridge (then perhaps ruinous) stood; — it was opposite St. Nicholas port which led to the center of the city, and fronting St. Thomas-street, the center parish on the Redcliff side: they could not have chosen a better situation though it is rather in the bend of the river; and the buildings on both sides of the water seem afterwards to have been laid out in a direction agreeable to this site of the bridge or passage over the Avon.

That the river was then turned into the new channel above described, evidently appears from the marks of it to this day. At Tower Harrits we see even now a deep wide trench, which the high bank on one side of it shews to have been made by art, and such a quantity of earth thrown out proves its having been very large and much deeper then at present, — it runs in a direct line to Temple gate, and were the tide not shut out by a hatch it would still flow as far as Temple gate through it; there the channel is now covered by building, though open with a bridge over it formerly; but appears again at the back part of Pile-street, (which took its name from its being once a pill or passage for water) and so passing by Redcliff gate goes into the river Avon again, where it is now converted into a very large gout or common sewer for that part of the city. The city being walled on this side, it ran just under the wall and doubtless afterwards served as a very good additional fence either as a dry or wet ditch.

Another proof of the river being thus diverted into a new channel, while they were laying the foundations is the immense size of the piers, of solid masonry, which as they could build without any interruption, they made as big and as firm as they pleased, to secure the bridge for ever effectually against any injury from bodies of ice floating down, from the violence and rapidity of the current, from freshes after rain, and accidents from vessels breaking from their moorings or the like.

But what puts it beyond a doubt, is the account of a boat, and materials belonging to shipping having been dug up here in the gardens behind Pile-street.



freet. The cut necessary for it was not very long, and the great advantage derived from it of building without being hindered by the water coming down upon them, points it out as the most eligible method they could have put in practice on such an occasion. That part of the river has been ever since called Back-Avon, which seems to insinuate that the Avon was once made to run on that back-side of the city.

That the bridge was not erected on a foundation made with piles has been proved; and the old piers were perforated to examine their structure if they would support the new bridge erected on them in the year 1767, and found firm and solid, when to the great surprize of the workmen they found in the middle of Redcliff pier a fell of oak about one foot square and forty foot long with two uprights near each end about nine inches square and eight or nine foot high morticed into the fell, supposed by the workmen who had been down and examined it, to be the remains of the old wooden bridge first built on this spot, which decaying, a stone one was erected in its place, when these pieces of timber were not removed, but as they built such large piers at leisure, undisturbed by the current, they walled them into the middle of the pier without the trouble of taking them up, but thinking perhaps it might give some stability to the work.

The whole breadth of the river being about two hundred feet, they divided it into four arches and three solids or piers; but these last were made so very thick and large, that the water way left was not more than one hundred feet, rather insufficient especially in high tides and freshes, as the water being kept back and confined, thereby it made a fall at the arches dangerous to the navigation; which has occasioned their judgment being greatly called in question by our modern builders. But whatever might be their reason for making the arches so narrow and the piers so large, the projectors of this bridge and the key ought ever to be remembered with the utmost honour gratitude and regard to their memory: a work that one should suppose, they would not have been equal to and through diffidence never have attempted; but their public spirit which seems to have animated them to such a noble undertaking, ought to be extolled to latest posterity. — The idea of duration and stability seems to have influenced their judgment too much in constructing such thick large piers, but as they built in a manner on dry land, they thought they could not possibly make them too strong, having such an opportunity of doing it with ease; — however the superstructure might decay, they rightly judged, that might easily be repaired, but the piers or pillars they were for building for eternity.



To turn the river another way was no trifling matter, therefore while it was done they rightly considered, that the firmest foundations they could build were the best, either for the present or any future use they might be applied to.

But there has been another objection made, that has more weight, and deserves some consideration, viz. how they made the Bridge so narrow at first, being only nineteen feet broad, and afterwards turned other secondary arches from the spandrels of the first, and parallel with them; and laying large timbers, or rather trees, from the bridge to these secondary arches, not four feet thick, erected houses thereon; which was, in fact, building a bridge for a safe and open passage, and afterwards straitening or incommoding it with buildings, so as to render it difficult for two carriages in aftertimes to pass abreast or by one another, without endangering the lives of foot passengers or driving them into those very houses for their security. As to the first, it is very unfair for us, at this time, to censure our ancestors for not making the bridge wider; for doubtless at that time, it was amply sufficient for all the carriages they then used, and fully calculated for a free passage of the people over it, and the boats under it. The increased number of carriages since, and vast concourse of inhabitants, could not then have been an object of any human foresight.

The houses built on the secondary arches were not a part of the first plan. The bridge seems to have been built for some time before this scheme took place, or was allowed. A chapel, dedicated to St. Mary, I think, was the first building erected there. William of Worcester describes this chapel, as thirty-six steppys long and twelve wide; in another place, twenty-five yards long and seven yards wide; and p. 234. gives the following description of it: "1361, dedicatio capellæ pontis, &c." i. e. the chapel of the bridge of Bristol was dedicated Feb. 4, 1361; its length is twenty-five yards, breadth seven yards, its height fifty stairs; and there is a vault or arched room in its lower part, for the aldermen of the town, as long as the church with the nave, and it has four great windows on each side, and each window three lights, and an high window at the east part of the altar, and another little altar, with a small chapel on the east of the principal altar, of the length of three yards. And the chapel contains a vault, a chapel, and an hall with offices, and a lofty chamber of stone." This chapel was erected and founded by Edward 3d. and his Queen Philippa, and called the chapel of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, as appears p. 185. of the great Red Book of Bristol: and John Hakston and John Hanker gave two messuages and three shops on the



Bak Avon to John Gweyn, chaplain there, for a perpetual chantry in this chapel to pray for the king's health, 49th Edward 3d.

In a letter from Pope Sixtus 4th. dated April 10, eleventh year of his consecration, this chapel is said "to be built and well endowed by certain burgesses and commons of the town," (in honore & sub vocabulo beatæ Mariæ Virginis) which might be the case, though the king and queen above had the credit assigned them, by granting the charter for it, as was usual. The pope grants leave for ringing the bells and performing all divine offices therein, doing no prejudice to the rights of the parish church of St. Nicholas, in which parish it was situated. In the will of Nicholas Chapman, 1382, I find a bequest to the chapel of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, on the bridge of Bristol. Great Book of Wills, p. 6.

This chapel probably took its rise as much from a view of profit as devotion; and it is not improbable but they collected in it money for defraying the expence they had incurred, and for the support of the bridge afterwards, from the devotees, who came there to worship. They imitated the Londoners also in this, who in 1209 built a chapel to St. Thomas, sixty feet long and twenty-five broad, on the great pier of London bridge: and Leland says of it, vol. v. f. 22. "a mason being maistre of the Bridge-house buildyd a fundamentis, a chapel propriis expensis." This on Bristol bridge was but a small room, having three Gothic windows on each side, and was supported on an arch, turned from the pier of the Bridge to a pillar breaking out up the stream in the middle of the river, and over the chapel were the priests' chambers. It stood for many years, and was not destroyed till the year 1644; and in 1649 the two stone arches, on which the priest tenements formerly stood, belonging to the chapel, which had been burnt, were granted to Walter Stevens and son to be built upon, from Sir William Birch of Westminster, and a chief rent of 4l. per annum for a house, that went across the bridge at top, called afterwards the chapel house.

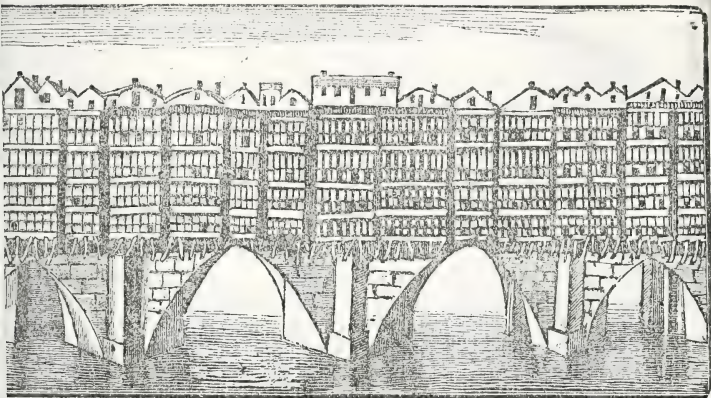
In imitation of London, or partly to defray the great charges of the bridge, (for it no where appears how it was defrayed) houses were afterwards suffered to be erected on each side of it, that it had the appearance of a dark, narrow street. These, which were let at very high and advantageous rents, in reality did not confine the passage, or make the bridge any narrower than it was at first; for the whole breadth of the bridge was in the road, and as soon as you stepped into any of the houses that hung, as it were, between the bridge and the secondary arches, you were immediately on a floor of timbers and over the water, their ends resting on the bridge and secondary arches, which

were





were Gothic, very slender, and not so compact nor so well turned as the real, primary, semicircular arches of the bridge itself, and hardly sufficient to bear such a weight of lofty buildings, pressing unequally upon them. But no words can give the reader so just an idea of Bristol bridge as a view of the following draught of it, which was made in 1760, at the time it was about to be taken down, which being coarse represents to the eye more truly the appearance of it.



This bridge, when naked and unincumbered with houses, (which were afterwards erected thereon by turning secondary Gothic arches opposite the old ones, for a foundation for one end of the buildings to rest upon,) consisted of four neat, strong, semicircular arches, the passage over it being only nineteen feet wide, which must have had a parapet wall at the sides before the houses were erected, to secure people from falling over into the river.

There was great solemnity used and public joy displayed \* on the first opening of Bristol bridge: all joined in celebrating this great event, being well apprized of its extensive utility. Their care in preserving it afterwards was equal to their diligence and eagerness in erecting it.† Wheel carriages laden

\* The ceremony and joy said to be displayed on this occasion, with the songs to St. Baldwin and St. Warburgh, are described already and published, p. 433. of Rowley's Poems by Dean Mallet, to which I refer the reader.

† Donations were made from time to time by well-disposed people for its repairs, by Mr. Thorn and others. Even so early as Henry 3d. it appears he granted letters patent to the mayor and



laden\* very heavy were but a century ago, not suffered to pass over it for fear of injuring it, and were halled on a kind of sledge for that purpose first and so brought over. — And after it was crowded with houses, to shew how little they provided then (by its first-intended width) for wheel carriages, they also had bulks before their houses there, which were not removed till the year 1698, by an act or bye law of the corporation for that purpose; and so late as the 5th Jac. ii. Oct. — “The chain at the bridge was ordered to be locked every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, and every market day in High-street from eight in the morning till two in the afternoon, and no halier, brewer or other great carriages with drays suffered to pass over to the disturbance of the people going that way.” But the greatest damage the bridge ever sustained was from fire, about the year 1646, as the date on the large chimney piece of the houses rebuilt afterwards plainly declare; when near one half of it from the chapel almost to St. Nicholas gate on both sides was consumed. But the great advantage derived from the construction of this stone bridge soon began to appear; — parishes enlarged, churches and religious houses built, and a new charter † to the Redclivians, new markets, fairs, increase of people, trade, and manufactures were the consequent good effects: some time after the pomerium or bounds of the city were enlarged and fixed by public charter of King Edward the 3d. and from this and making the new Quay most of these great events seem to have taken their rise, and every improvement we can now boast of, in regular and speedy steps followed the execution of these grand and nobly projected works of those days.

The ships indeed were now stopped from going up to unlade at the port of St. Mary, where the old well-turned gothic arches now pulled down extending some from the banks of the Avon (where the late Shambles were ‡) almost back into St. Mary le port churchyard, sufficiently demonstrated what a place of business that formerly was. The back of Bristol begun now also to yield

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corporation in regard of their great charges in repairing the keys, walls, pitching and the bridge of the town which received great damage from floods, carts and carriages, by which they were empowered to purchase and settle lands to the value of 100l. per ann. notwithstanding the statute of Mortmain to repair the same. — Little Red Book, page 93.

\* So late as the year 1615 there was an act of common council that no cart with iron-bound wheels should even enter the city further than St. Peter's pump; which gave occasion to what Camden asserted, that (in his time) they used no wheel carriages, for fear of injuring the gouts (cloacæ) or sinks arched under ground, but drays in their stead: but now all wheel carriages are used as well as drays.

† Of this charter of Henry the 3d. to the burgesses of Redcliff, and public transactions afterwards, and of the other subsequent charters, see annals for the year 1248, and after.

‡ Vid. Wm. of Worcester, p. 170. 37.



as a place of wharfrage to the new Quay, where the ships lay still and undisturbed by the current on a soft bed of mud, the small craft only coming to the Back.

The edifices erected afterwards to the honour of God, and the munificent endowment of hospitals and religious houses, by the natives and inhabitants, sufficiently prove their increase in trade and opulence. And it may be said of the merchants here in general in those days, they refunded great part of the wealth they acquired here to the city again, either in their life time or at their death; of which many illustrious examples will be given, when I come to enumerate and specify the benefactors' names, and record their good deeds, whose charity and humanity do such honour to our city, that not to endeavour to do them justice, or to conceal or slightly to pass them over, in the future pages of this work, might with reason merit the severest censure.

The great improvements of the city, that succeeded fast the erection of the bridge and making the Quay, come now in course to be particularly noted, which will bring us to the present modern improved state of it.

#### C H A P. IV.

##### *Of BRISTOL in its present improved State.*

**B**RISTOL lies in 51 degrees of northern latitude, distant from London 115 miles, through Bath 123; and the turnpike roads around it, being kept in repair, render its environs the more pleasing and inviting. The many agreeable prospects, and walks or rides on the adjacent downs of Durdham and Leigh, and over the hills at Portishead, Walton, and Clevedon, in view of the Bristol Channel; the delightful villages of Ashton, Leigh, Wraxal, and Backwell, on one side; of Kingweston, (the seat of Lord Clifford) of Westbury, Henbury, Almondsbury, Stapleton, and Frenchay, on another; and of Brisslington, Knowle, and Dundry, on the other, &c.; and the pleasurable excursions to the Old and New Passages; add greatly to the amusement, health, and happiness of its inhabitants. The situation of the city itself is very comfortable, being defended from the cold north winds by the adjoining hills. Now greatly enlarged by an additional extent of buildings on every side, and improved by the liberties and franchises it enjoys from several kings,



it continues to flourish in manufactures and commerce; and consequently becomes more and more populous. Even so early as the year 1347 it had weight enough to obtain the charter from Edward 3d. for constituting it a county within itself: that great prince's words are well worth mentioning, viz. "that in consideration of the good services, by their shipping and otherwise, done to us in times past, we have granted it to be, and be for ever called the county of Bristol, and to enjoy the liberties and freedoms under-written, &c."

But the greatest dignity and highest honour from a crowned head it next arrived to, was the being erected into a bishop's see and constituted a city by the royal letters patent, which in the Latin original are dated June 4, the 34th Henry 8th. though it had enjoyed the title of a city before, it was now legally and by authority so denominated.

An old manuscript before me words it thus:—"Bristol hath been always loyal to the king's majesties progenitors and the next to the crown, not consenting to the proclaiming Q. Jane, tho' she was so proclaim'd in sundrie places. Bristol has been found willing and serviceable ever to their prince, in Q. Maries time against the French, when they sustained great losses by sea, to the undoing of many, whereof some were taken prisoners; and also in the time of late Q. Elizabeth against the Spaniards and in the wars of Ireland.—Bristol is accounted the queen's chamber,\* as London is the king's chamber: it maintaineth the state of government there at their own charges, in most commendable fort. It always has been zealously affected to the advancement of God's word, and maintaineth preachers at their great charges. The maior, being the king's lieutenant, giveth place to no man but unto his majesty.—The Duke of Norfolk, the Earls of Leicester, Warwick, and Pembroke, the Lords President of the Marches, the Justices of Assize, all have and do give place unto the maior; so also the bishops predecessors have ever done the like. Always good service the town did unto the king.

"Bristol, being *villa regalis & libera*, was first made a county of itselfe the 47th Edward 3d. for notable services done to the king; and in the 34th Henry 8th. made a city, in regard of the love the said king did bear to the place, and of the great services done by the said towne, especially in the wars against the French king, who would have landed in the Isle of Wight; at which time this town did set forth eight ships. When King Henry 8th. came

\* London is called the "king's chamber" by Shakespeare, in Richard 3d. act 3, scene 1, speech of Buckingham, vide Pope's note. "Camera Regia" was anciently the name of London,





on board Bristowe's fleet on that memorable time, he asked the names of their ships; and they answered the king, it is this: The first is

The barque Thorne, of	- - - - -	600 tons.
The barque Pratt, - - - - -	- - - - -	600 tons.
The barque Gourney, - - - - -	- - - - -	400 tons.
The barque Younge, - - - - -	- - - - -	400 tons.
The barque Winter, - - - - -	- - - - -	300 tons.
The barque Shipman, - - - - -	- - - - -	250 tons.
The Eliphant, - - - - -	- - - - -	120 tons.
The Dragon, - - - - -	- - - - -	120 tons.

The king wished he had many such Thornes, Pratts, Gournays, and the like, in his londe."

In a manuscript it is said, "in 1543, twelve ships sailed out of Bristol, in the king's service, to assist at the siege of Bulloign, with Matthew Earl of Lenox, under whom served Sir William Winter and Sir Richard Maunfell, who returned again with the earl."

By these charters and other grants of privileges it soon became of great repute in the commercial world and of high rank in the nation, and every year almost was productive of improvements. New streets and public structures arose, more regular buildings were set on foot; till at length, embellished with squares, and adorned with a better stile of building, it has advanced itself to the present lustre and magnificence it may justly claim, as appears by the large plan facing the title, and a farther description or delineation of it.

The centre of the city still occupies the hilly ground of an easy ascent, being the whole of the old town or vill of Brightflow; the plain around it was first built on, and converted into streets. St. James's district soon became full of houses and inhabitants, and enlarged its borders to the very summit of Kingsdown (called formerly Prior's-hill); which with the steep hill of St. Michael, both covered with elegant houses, afford the distant eye a very agreeable prospect of pendent houses and gardens; and a spectator is struck with surprize at the first sight of a large town, hanging in continued slope, as it were, from the very clouds. From hence, and from the Park and Brandon-hill,\* may be taken the most comprehensive view of the whole city below: the pleasantness of this spot, and delightful prospect of the adjacent country to a great distance, has occasioned such a train of buildings to be erected there, to grace the brow of this hill and overlook the busy town. From hence

we

\* See Buck's views, who published two views of Bristol, very fine; one taken from this spot, the other from Pile-hill on Redcliff side.



we descry, at a single glance, the towers and steeples of nineteen churches which adorn this city; whose comely form and stately elevation, as well as cleanness and elegance conspicuous in their insides, is justly admired by strangers, and reflects deserved applause on the inhabitants.

A solemn neatness shines on every side,  
A neatness unadorn'd with Romish pride;  
A comely form the stately buildings grace,  
The inward worship suits this outward face.  
Refin'd from all extremes, in order clean,  
The English church observes the golden mean:  
As temperate climes a due proportion hold  
Betwixt the scorching heat and freezing cold.

Goldwin's Poem on Bristol.

This hill and St. James's parish beneath it was but thinly inhabited formerly, and, with the priory afterwards erected there by Robert Earl of Gloucester, was reckoned only the suburbs of Bristol; but now being every where full of buildings, and embellished with three regular modern-built squares, St. James's-square, King's-square, and Brunswick-square (the last begun 1769 and now 1788 completed) it is become a very considerable part of the city;—so great a part, that in 1787 an act was obtained for dividing this large parish, and erecting a new church to be called St. Paul's church, already begun; where an elegant new square, of two hundred and eighty feet every way, is intended to be formed soon, with regular buildings and uniform fronts, the ground being already purchased and laid out for this purpose. On the western side, formerly called the marsh of Bristol or Avon marsh, beyond the second or outward wall of the city, great improvements also were made by building new streets, as King-street, Prince's-street, and above all a spacious, handsome square of houses, fronted in an uniform manner, called Queen-square, in compliment to that good and amiable princess Queen Anne; began about the year 1708 and completed in 1726; which, for its delightful walks, shaded with rows of elms, and the cross walks with lime-trees, (which were taken up in 1776, as making it too shady) is esteemed an agreeable place of habitation, as well as of resort in fine weather, for the gentlemen and ladies, according to Mr. Goldwin's poetical description:

Here elms and limes in treble order run,  
To screen our walking beauties from the sun;  
Natures umbrella here confus'dly meets,  
And summer breezes fan the cool retreats.



In the center of Queen's-square in 1736, was set up an equestrian statue in brass by the ingenious Mr. Ryfbrack, fixed on an high pedestal and inclosed, with iron pallisadoes. It was long disputed at that time, what great personage should grace this elegant and spacious quadrangle: many were for Queen Elizabeth, more for Queen Ann, others for any of our Kings who had been benefactors to the city, by granting charters of privileges or immunities, but William the 3d. prevailed and had the place assigned to him in preference to all. It was set up by the corporation of that time at the expence of the chamber, and is esteemed one of the best equestrian statues in the Kingdom, were the horse less incumbered with trappings, — for which the artist is not to be blamed. It is thus described by H. Jones in a "Poem called Clifton and its environs."

What grand magnificence on virtue grows,  
 What squares, what palaces of late arose!  
 How wealth, how taste in every pile appear  
 With still improving grace from year to year!  
 Lo Queen's, — enrich'd by Ryfbrack's Roman hand;  
 See William's finish'd form majestic stand:  
 His martial form, express'd with attic force,  
 Erect, like Antonine's, his warlike horse:  
 With lofty elegance and Grecian air,  
 To feast the well-pleas'd eye and fill the square.

This spacious square, which is one hundred and seventy yards each side and upwards, rose like the creation out of chaos, to such beauty out of a muddy marsh, overflowed often with the tide, and was once the common receptacle of all the ashes and scavengers' sweepings of the city. Such are the alterations human industry is capable of effecting! The Grove also in this neighbourhood, fronting the river Avon, is very pleasant; but a new mud-dock, for the use and security of shipping, was there built in 1769, at the expence of the Merchants'-hall, amounting to the sum of 10,000*l.* with proper cranes, which is a very useful and necessary work, the trade of the city requiring more room for the shipping, which the Quay alone could not commodiously hold: and as it now continues the Quay wall quite round to the Back it completes that work, and together forms as fine a Quay, of a mile and a quarter round, as any in England, encircling in a manner that side of the city; and the ships, like a thick forest of tall trees, after sailing up with the tide into the midst of the city, lie securely on a soft bed of mud on the return of the tide by the Quay walls, and are there discharged, the goods and merchandize





CATHEDRAL of the  
*VIEW of the COLLEGE and ROPE WALK.*  
 from the Opposite South side of the River Avon



*A VIEW of the GREAT CRAIN and SLIP*  
 at the Lower end of Princess Street





merchandize weighed off at the king's scales, and immediately deposited in warehouses at the merchants' backdoors, constructed there very conveniently for that purpose. To land the goods with greater dispatch, several cranes are erected on the wharf of the Quay at proper distances; that built and contrived by the ingenious Mr. Padmore, by the Mud-dock, near the Gibb, is an excellent piece of mechanism, fixed on large pillars of wood, and under it the goods are secured from the weather: see the view or engraved print of it.

There cannot be a more pleasing walk than round this Quay, when the spring tide is coming in bringing with it ships and vessels of all kinds, laden with wares and treasures from different parts of the globe; a sight that cannot fail to gladden the heart that cherishes any regard for his country, or bears a love to Britain. The tide rises at Bristol Quay more than twenty-five feet perpendicular; at Rownham, not a mile lower, about thirty-two feet; at Chepstow, sixty feet.

In the year 1765, it was proposed by some enterprizing, scheming genius, to keep the vessels constantly afloat in the Quay, by damming the water up, and erecting double gates or locks, to let the ships in and out occasionally. — A plan of Bristol Quay, with the projection of the sluices and canal for floating the shipping and Severn trows, and for enlarging the harbour by making a new canal through Cannon's-marsh, was engraved and published by the ingenious Mr. Smeaton in January 1765, to which I refer, only remarking, that the From alone was in this to be dammed up at the lower end of the Quay, and diverted into a new canal and discharged at the glasshouse, the lower end of Cannon's-marsh; but the expence of doing this was so great as to quash the enterprize, the following being Mr. Smeaton's calculation:

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
" To digging, - - - - -	6555	0	0
Key walling, - - - - -	4887	0	0
The two sluices, - - - - -	8000	0	0
The dam and hatches across the present mouth of the From river, - - - - -	1000	0	0
The hatches at the new bridge and upon Newgate millpond, - - - - -	600	0	0
Contingent expences, - - - - -	3958	0	0
Total - - -	£ 25000	0	0

Exclusive of purchase of lands and damages to Bridwell-mill and Tombs's dock, &c."

But



But Mr. Champion proposed in the year 1767 a much more extensive scheme, which was, to dam up the river Avon itself just above the Glaſs-house and ſtream of water at the Red clift above the Hot-wells, and making a new cut through that point of land, that runs out into the river there, and forming a chamber in it ſecured by two fluices with double gates one above and the other below, to receive the ſhips into the chamber betwixt the gates with the tide, and ſo paſs them on towards Briſtol or down the river, as might be required; and by making a bridge over the dam and draw-bridges over the chambers, to effect a communication there betwixt Aſhton and Clifton pariſhes or the counties of Somerſet and Gloceſter: a plan of this was alſo publiſhed to which I refer, but being thought ſtill more expenſive to execute than the other, and attended with many obvious difficulties and ſome perhaps not to be foreſeen or known but on trial, the whole was dropt,\* and the merchants are at preſent contented with the new additional large mud-dock in the Grove aforeſaid and a new dock for keeping ſhips afloat, made at the expence of the Merchant's-hall, in the road to the Hotwells, at the expence of near 15,000l.

The north ſide of the city was not alſo without its improvement as well as the ſquare and weſtern part: for a better communication with it a Draw-bridge acroſs the Froom or Quay was erected in 1714, at the expence of 1066l. 6s. 1d. And in 1718 a by-law was made that no hallier under the penalty of 20s. for each offence ſhould draw any timber on drays or any loaded cart or waggon over this bridge, which being of wood was repaired at a very great expence: and being ſince conſtructed in an improved method of drawing up the gates by a curious mechanical contrivance of iron wheels with cogs, it is more expenſive to repair it when out of order, and the by-law more neceſſary to be obſerved and enforced. Another permanent bridge of ſtone was alſo built afterwards at the charge of the city Chamber, at the head of the Quay oppoſite Small-ſtreet, a great convenience as well for carriages as foot-paſſengers. Superb houſes were alſo erected on St. Auguſtin's-green, now called College-green, the ſweeteſt and moſt delightful ſituation in the city in the opinion of moſt; indeed it was ever eſteemed ſo: for in the year 1259, in a diſpute between the monks of St. Auſtin and the brethren of St. Mark about the right of burial in this green, (then the common cemetery of the former) the Biſhop of Worceſter awarded to the latter the liberty of burying there before their houſe, but on condition of

leaving

\* But this ſcheme, it is thought, will be yet put in execution at ſome future time, ſo deſirous are they ſtill of keeping the ſhips always afloat.



leaving the ground always level ("in planitiem redigatur terra propter loci amœnitatem,") "because of the pleasantness of the place." And before the houses were built and confined the prospect, it must have been exceedingly delightful; as indeed it is at present, and on Sundays and holidays it is the Mall of Bristol, a great concourse of well dressed people flocking hither at such times for a walk. Trinity-street, formerly an orchard belonging to the dissolved monastery and then to the Dean and Chapter, and Orchard-street, belonging in the like manner formerly to the house of St. Marks, are all newly erected within these late years.

Stoney-hill on this side is also almost covered with fine houses, and the hill of St. Michael, steep as it is, has but little void ground upon it.

On this side also are two dry docks for repairing and rebuilding ships, and two others very large and convenient across the Avon at Wapping, to which there is a passage at two places by a ferry-boat. At both places ship-building is carried on with great spirit and industry; at Wapping a large spacious wet dock with double gates is built lately to receive the shipping and keep them constantly afloat; a proper method to secure them from being injured in their bottoms, as is sometimes probably the case at the Quay by grounding so often, viz. at every tide. — But a much larger dock than at either of the above places was made at a very great expence in the year 1768, by Mr. Champion, farther down the river; which in Jan. 1769 received a 64 gun ship with ease through its gates.

But the largest dock of all for receiving and discharging ships of great burden and laying them up afloat afterwards, was still lower down at a place called Sea or Say-mills on the little river Trim, where ships are admitted with the tide into the dock, capable of containing several score sail afloat always, through very large gates, particularly contrived for the purpose; which being shut down they ride safe moored, and by the help of cranes they were unloaden there into large lighters or boats of burden, and by them the goods and wares were brought up to the merchants store-houses. It was made at the great expence of several private gentlemen, whose families since have been great losers by the project, for the expence attending the keeping the gates and docks in repair, and inconvenience to the merchant of unloading into lighters and having their ships at such distance have made this dock in 1788 little used.

Farther down the river is Hung-road, where is a safe harbour for the large ships, and where many unload into lighters as above: Leland says, "Hunge-road is about three miles lower in the haven than Brightstow, at this



rode be some howfys in *dextra Avon ripa*. About a myle lower is King's rode, and there be also some howfes in *dextra ripa Avonæ*. There is a place almoste agayne Hungrode caulyd Portchestar, where Hardyng and Roberte his sunne had a fayre howse, and another in Brightstowe towne. Some thynke a grete peece of the depenes of the haven from St. Vincent to Hunge rode hathe be made by hande: some say, that shippes of very auncient tyme came up to St. Stephanes churche in Brightstowe." As to this last, there might have been a wet ditch between St. Austins side and the marsh of Bristol, which the tide might flow up, and so bring boats even to St. Stephen's church, which might put the city upon the project of making a quay there afterwards; but it is certain, no ships could come up so high till that took place, unless through the From at Baldwin-street, &c. Near Hungrode, on the south side of the river, are two small branches, called Crockern Pill and Morgan's Pill, where ships sometimes lie, and small vessels come to an anchor to wait for the tide. On the north side of the river, opposite almost to Crockern Pill, King William 3d. landed, near the village of Shirehampton, Sept. 6, 1690, and went to Sir Robert Southwell's, at Kingsweston, adjacent to it.

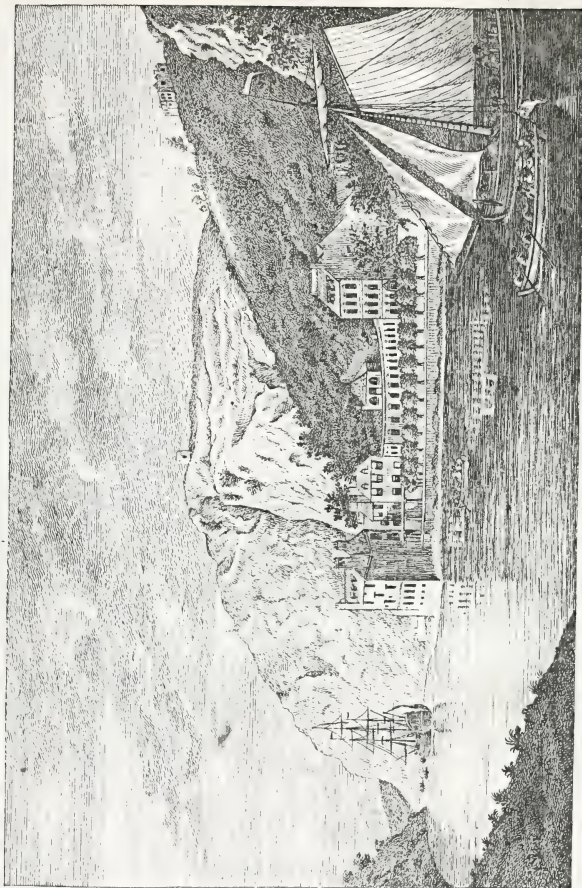
Rowley (in manuscript *penes me*) says, "Hardinge, fadre of Fytz-Hardyng, han fayre and godelic possellyons atte Porteburie eke ycleped Port Ceastre: Fytz-Hardyng gotte of Hen. 2d. a baileve, a markette, and fayre, on St. Decumbe's day, the fyrste Mondaie in Whytson week, the whyche did abyde duryng the whole weeke. Atte thys fayre the bayleve dyd doe homage to the abbot of Seynt Austine's yn Bristowe, who dyd dhyther goe wyth hys brederen to amount of twa hundredth botes: the homage was done by spred-dyng hys scarlete cloke at the slyppe of Creocham, wherebie the abbatte dyd londe upon ytte, which homage dyd entytule the bayleeve to hys rule and an homage or oar money of thyppes."

Kingroad is reckoned a good open harbour and safe anchorage, accidents very seldom happening to ships that lie there; though to come to it through the Bristol Channel however safe it be with good pilots, is very dangerous for strangers and those unacquainted with it, but by firing a gun for a signal, the pill-pilots bred up to the business and acquainted with every rock or sand bank, &c. from their youth, push out immediately to meet the ship and take charge of conducting her safe into harbor.

In 1635, a decree passed for demolishing all houses and buildings at Crockern Pill, (except one for passing the boat over) which had been erected there by Mr. Morgan, to the prejudice of the city in harbouring bad people there, and destroying the posts for mooring ships in the river Avon, which  
posts







*Doddrill sculp.*

*VIEW OF BRISTOL HOTEL.*



posts are placed on the banks of the Avon from Kingroad up to the city, and are kept in repair by the corporation; who in consequence of this decree appointed persons to put it in execution. But Mr. Morgan and his tenants again erected houses there, so that in the year 1656, by letters patent of Oliver Cromwell, the city was again impowered to set up mooring posts, and to demolish the buildings there; but though the mooring posts remain, houses have since been built, and a little town is erected at Pill for the habitation of the pilots and others.

On St. Augustine's side of the city, a mile down the river Avon, is the noted rock of St. Vincent,\* which furnishes the naturalist with those beautiful pieces of spar called Bristol stones, and other fossils, corals, and shells, and the more noted fountain of Hotwell water, issuing from the bottom of the rock, which has given to the place the name of the HOTWELLS. William of Worcester mentions the hot spring at Bristol as of note when he wrote, in 1480, and describes St. Vincent's rock and a chapel there and hermitage. — "*Fons ibidem una bowshot apud la black rocke in parte de Ghyston clyff in fundo aquæ, et est ita calidus, sicut lac vel aqua Badonis.*" p. 185. And in page 223. he again mentions it in the following words: "*Fons calidus emanat de profundo aquæ Avyn sicut est Bathoniæ in le rok de Ghyston clyff in eadem parte in le shole place. Scarlet-welle est directe in parte oppositâ in alta parte de Hungerode emanante de rupe.*" And p. 105. "*Scarlette welle est fons perclarissimus emanans de alta rupe in parte oppositâ aquæ in Dominio de Lye, & est in âltitudine in altiori parte de le rok de parte villæ de Lye âltitudinis 12 pedum.*" He thus describes Giant's-hole: "*Fox-hole est volta mirabiliter seita super in alto de Ghyston clyffe super ripam de la rokk altiorem et valde periculosus locus ad intrandam voltam ne cadat in mare profunditatis 60 brachiorum & ultra.*" He also describes the chapel of St. Vincent in plain English, more intelligibly than in his bad Latin, p. 184. "*The halle of the chapell of Seynt Vincent of Gyston clyff is ix yerdes longe, and the brede 3 yerdys; the length of the ketchyn is ... yerdes (in another place 6 virgæ) the brede of the ketchyn is 3 yardes; and from the chapelle of Seynte Vyncent ys to the lower water 40 vethym, and from the ovyr parte of the mayn grounde londe of the feyd hygh rok downe to the feyde chapelle of Seynt Vincent ben 20 vethym rekened and proved; and so from the hygh mayne ferme londe of the feyde rok downe to the lowest water ground of the channel of Avyn and Froome is 60 vethym and moeh more, proved by a yong man of smythys occupation in Radecliff-strete, that feyde yt to me, hath both desc-*

\* A view of it may be seen in the plate annexed.



cended from the hyghest of the rok down to the water fyde." He goes on to describe the chapel of the hermitage as twenty fathom (one hundred and twenty feet) from the firm ground in height, as measured by himself, Sept. 26, 1480, or one hundred and twenty-four steps or thereabout, and situated about the middle of the rock as you ascend to the high ground.

This rock or cliff of St. Vincent is not more remarkable for its amazing height than for its being equally so on both sides of the river, the strata declining to the south and answering on each side alike; a proof they were never broken or disturbed by the violent and irregular motion and disruption of an earthquake, and that the chafin betwixt for the passage of the tide was formed at the deluge, and the rock left in the same separate and divided state it was then split into, when the shell of the earth was cracked through, and the fountains of the abyfs were broken up, according to the true Mosaic account of that great event. It is a very hard marble, or limestone of a peculiar kind, from a dusky red to a light grey, and when polished is beautifully variegated; in the fissures are found those fine crystals, smoothed and formed into angles by nature\* as well as by the most skilful lapidary can be done: sometimes they are found inclosed in hollow reddish nodules, which are as it were pregnant with these gems, and contain them as in a safe matrix, which must be broke before you can discover them; these are turned up often by the plow in the fields near Durdham-down and about Kingweston. This rock furnishes the natural philosopher with many curious fossils, the botanist† with some scarce plants, the

\* Vid. Braun's description in *Theatrum Urbium*, lib. iv. "On the top of the rock, where it is plain, are so many diamonds, that a ship may be laden therewith." Camden says, "One may get whole bushels of them." — This sure could never be the case.

† A catalogue of the rarer plants, &c. found about St. Vincent's rock, by the ingenious physician and botanist, Dr. Broughton, of Bristol.

PLANTS. — *Veronica spicata*, *scabiosa columbaria*, *rubia peregrina*, *gallium montanum*, *glaux maritima*, *chenopodium maritimum*, *bupleurum tenuissimum*, *smyrnium olusatrum*, *pimpinella dioica*, *scilla autumnalis*, *chlora perfoliata*, *monotropa hypopithys*, *arcuaria rubra*, *sedum rupestre*, *potentilla verna*, *galeopsis ladanum*, *turritis hirsuta*, *arabis stricta*, *geranium sanguineum*, *ornithopus perfoliatus*, *hippocrepis carnea*, *hypericum montanum*, *erigeron acre*, *viola livida*, *orchis spiralis*, — *apifera*, — *muscifera*, *asplenium caeterach*, *polypodium fragile*.

FOSSILS found here. — STONES, limestone, grey, lead coloured, variegated with spar. — SPARS, irregularly formed, rhomboid, dog-toothed, stalactitic. — FOSSIL CORALS, porous, tubular, lythostrotion, mycetites, astroites, lapides juncei.

EARTHS. — Vegetable mould, ochres, deep red or purple, bright red, yellow, pale yellow.

CRYSTALS. — Diaphanous, red, amethystine, yellow.

METALS. — Iron, lead.

MARINE EXUVIÆ. — *Anomia*, *dithyris*, *trochita*, &c.



the antiquarian with the remains of a Roman camp,\* and the less curious enquirer with a view of the most astonishing and dreadful precipice. It is on the north side, at the bottom of the rock within the channel of the Avon on its bank, the Hotwell spring rises up with some force from beneath, upwards of ten feet above low water and about twenty-six feet below high water mark. The late worthy and ingenious Dr. Randolph, whose excellent treatise on the Bristol water will be admired and held in esteem as lasting as the spring it celebrates, attributes its first reputation to its efficacy in the gravel and stone; but above all in the diabetes, in which it was deemed a specific. About the year 1670, one Mr. Gagg, a baker, in Castle-street, dreaming one night, as he lay despaired of in that disorder, that he had drank plentifully of Bristol water and was wonderfully refreshed by it he was much inclined next morning to quench his thirst with it, and found it to answer his wish so well that by continuing its use in a few days he came abroad, gathered flesh and strength daily, and recovered to the surprize of every one. Though the spring was known in 1480, (vid. William of Worcester) and in 1632 used outwardly for the itch and in old sores with success, by letting the water which then ran down from a wooden pipe upon the pavement fall upon the part, which being thus well washed, they wet a cloth in the water and wrapt it round; yet it was this case of the diabetes that brought it into such reputation, that the city began to think the water worth their care. In 1660, the way was improved and made passable by Rownham to the Hotwell, Kal. p. 198: and in 1691 Sir John Knight, mayor of Bristol, endeavoured to inclose the spring in such a manner that the tide should not mix with it, by raising a stone work round it higher than the tide ever rose; but the weight of the water inclosed endangered the loss of the spring, by altering its course. In 1695, the merchants of Bristol granted a building lease for ninety years at 5*l.* per annum to certain proprietors, J. Jones and — Callowhill, to secure the spring, and contrive if possible that the water might be had as well at high as low water; who, finding the spring, made proper foundations for pumps, which now carry the water thirty feet high: the tide water being kept out from it by valves, which open to let the water out, but shut against any that would force itself in. Though this is of great use, yet it has almost set aside the old use of it externally, and prevented bathing in it immediately warm from the spring; a matter perhaps of some consequence, and as beneficial sometimes as its internal use; the spring-head being now so inclosed as not to be come at, the water is pumped into cisterns at a distance, and internally used it may not be quite so efficacious as formerly,

\* Vid. p. 18. the plate.

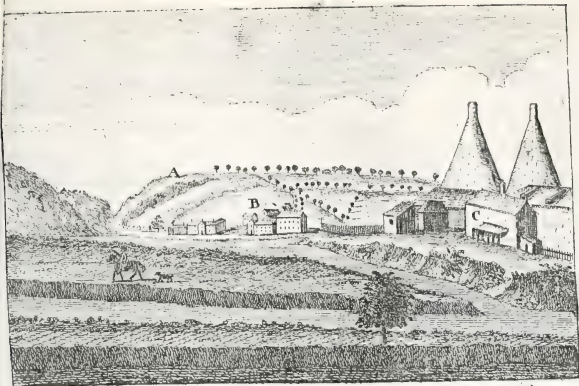




merly, losing no doubt some of its heat in being pumped up, and probably some of its virtue, especially if that depends on an impregnated air contained in the water; which, being very subtle, may soon fly off with the bubbles: the ineffectual analysis of it by many seems to prove some such latent principle in it, not to be arrested or discovered by any art. The celebrated uses of Bristol Hotwell water are, to temper an hot acrimonious blood, restrain hæmorrhages and feminal weaknesses, to cure the hectic fever and sweats, relieve consumptive people if the disease be inveterate, cure them if recent; above all, its virtue in the diabetes has been deemed unquestionable: it may vie with the Selter waters in efficacy. Patients with these complaints in the summer months flock hither from every part of the kingdom, where and at Clifton, a healthy and delightful situation, most elegant lodging-houses and every convenient accommodation for families that arrive can be had at the shortest notice; the pleasant rides on the neighbouring downs, the amusements, the music at the Long Rooms, the balls, assemblies, &c. make it also the resort of pleasure as well as the retreat of the sick and valetudinary. And the buildings lately erected there give it more the appearance of a large town than of lodgings, for the sick alone, and have so increased of late as to join the Hotwells quite to Bristol, by an uninterrupted chain of houses; so that in 1776, on account of the new-erected docks in the Hotwell-road, and additional buildings and inhabitants there, all the south side houses of the said road next the Avon are placed under the civil government of the mayor and corporation of Bristol as far as Rownham-ferry, by an act of parliament for that purpose, and exempted from Gloucestershire as to civil government.

On the south side of the city Bristol has also increased: Redcliff is now joined by late erected buildings to Bedminster; — Guinea-street and its neighbourhood is an addition to the former state of this part of it, and the new buildings, in the Addercliff garden there fronting the river Avon now called Burton-street, Canning-street, and Redcliff-parade, are pleasantly situated, and command a most entertaining and striking prospect of the water, of ships coming up and down the river every tide, of the business on the Back, of the whole city, and of the distant country to a great extent on all sides. The erection of several glass-houses, sugar-houses, the brewery and distillery, pottery and other manufactories have made a great accession to this side. The best part of the old outer wall of the city here is to be seen at this day. By two modern built handsome gates, Temple and Redcliff, one built in the year 1736, the other lately taken down, we enter the city from the county of Somerset. On the east side at this time we are presented with





A VIEW of *S<sup>T</sup> VINCENT'S ROCKS* with the *HOT WELLS* from *M<sup>r</sup> Warren's House* the Opposite South side of the River Avon  
A: S<sup>t</sup> Vincent's Rocks B: the Hot Wells C: M<sup>r</sup> Warren's house



A VIEW of *CLIFTON and BRANDON HILLS* } A: Brandon hill  
from the South side of the River Avon } B: Clifton hill



with quite a new face of things. The castle, once so conspicuous and defensible a fortress, is now quite demolished, and two streets, terminated with a gate erected in 1659, but pulled down in 1767 to widen the road, are laid out with buildings in its stead. The castle orchard is built into a street called Queen's-street where is a gate and arch over a branch of the Froom, formerly the Sally-port, and at the bottom of it is a ferry for passing over the Avon to Temple side, which when first established in the year 1651 was rented of the Chamber at 40s. per ann. and now at 90l. per. ann. a proof among others how much the inhabitants are increased since that time. St. Philip's also in this neighbourhood is become a large town of itself full of inhabitants; and the large distilleries, plate and bottle glass works, the iron founderies, smelting works and the like, have greatly contributed to its increase.

Having taken a view of the out-skirts of the city, let us now see what improvements of late have taken place in the center. — By purchasing and taking down the old houses there to make room for the erection of the exchange, a convenient space of ground was gained for that and a new market behind it, which before used to be kept in High-street and Broad-street \* to the great obstruction of passengers and general inconvenience of the inhabitants; the city was made also thereby much more airy, pleasant and healthful. In the year 1760, an act of parliament was obtained for taking down and rebuilding the old bridge of Bristol and erecting a new one there and at Temple backs, if thought necessary; and opening avenues leading thereto. The increase of commerce, and consequently of inhabitants, the number of carriages of all kinds, drays and horses constantly passing over the bridge, and of boats, lighters, &c. under it, in such a trading city rendered a freer and less interrupted passage here absolutely necessary, and a better communication between the two parts of the city now became indispensibly requisite, accidents daily happening there for want of it, besides the delays occasioned by carriages meeting and obstructing it. So various were the opinions of the commissioners appointed by the act for rebuilding the bridge, that a whole year passed after obtaining the act in disputes whether it should be a one arched bridge or a three arched one, on new or on the old foundations. Architects were consulted, and builders of all kinds; warm contests arose, and parties were formed on this occasion not without weekly publications in the public prints and in pamphlets in defence of their notions, by which the necessary work

\* The most ancient market-place for the Gloucestershire side of the city, and for the use of the Castle was in St. Philip's parish; at a place or street still called the Old Market, the old vaults and cellars there, and the Pie-powder Court still held there once a year the 29th September being proofs of it, now remaining.



work was greatly protracted, as procuring the act had been before through disagreement in the methods proposed for raising the money to defray the expence; which was fixed at last by a toll taken at the bridge itself, a tax on the houses of the city of 6d. in the pound, half paid by the landlord and half by the occupier, and by a small tonnage on the shipping, and vessels.

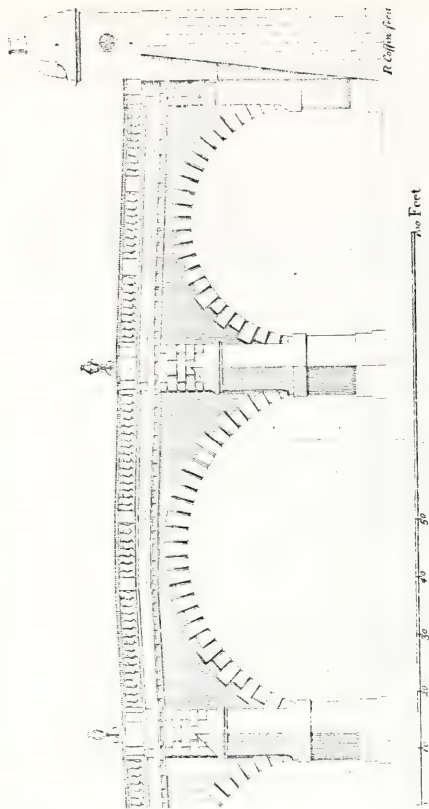
A temporary bridge by the side of the old one above it was at length agreed on, and in the beginning of July 1761 they first began taking down the houses and old buildings on the bridge; being first sold with all their materials to the best bidder. The temporary bridge was now in great forwardness, and was opened for the passing of foot people by the end of September, for horses and carriages Jan. 1st 1762, paying certain tolls. Great sums of money were taken up at interest by virtue of the act, and expended in purchasing the houses on the bridge and in its avenues and in the Shambles, which began all to be taken down apace; which gave this part of the city, before very close and dark, quite a different appearance: yet the plan of the building the new bridge was not agreed upon. But after long debates and great expence incurred to architects for their opinions, plans and models, the first design of constructing a three arched bridge on the old foundations was carried by a majority, 45 being for the old foundation, 18 for the new; — which though the most obvious and best scheme for the span of the river and for every other advantage to be expected in the building was frequently changed, and violently censured in comparison of a one arch, yet at last happily preferred and adopted, the masonry of the old piers being found on boring to be very firm and good and adjudged by the examining masons not to be constructed of a casing only of masonry with rubble in the center, but contrary to the notions of some of the architects to be throughout firm and and fit for the great incumbent weight of the intended superstructure.

A large quantity of stone of proper size was now laid in, but not without frequent interruption by the tide's not serving, being brought by water from Courtfield in Wales, but the balustrade is of Portland stone. The grand objection of making too steep an ascent, which was justly made against the one arch scheme, is removed by keeping the middle arch as low as could be without injuring the beauty of the bridge, by making it only an ellipsis or segment of a circle, while the side arches are both semicircles, but nothing can give the reader a just idea of the elevation of the bridge without a print of it, which is here subjoined and to which I refer. It was the month of September 1768 before it was finished to be opened for foot passengers, and November for horses and carriages; — for the tolls &c. I refer to the act of parliament.





# BRISTOL BRIDGE Rebuilt 1768





liament. It is not the bridge alone, that adds new beauty to this part of the city, but taking the old ruinous buildings of the shambles down, \* and laying out the ground into a new, spacious, handsome street, called Bridge-street, in their stead; erecting new houses in Thomas-street and Redcliff-street, in the avenues to the bridge; constructing the new church and spire of St. Nicholas; filling up the lower part of High-street, and thereby making the ascent, before very great, much easier and more gradual; opening a free and unconfined prospect over the river and into the city and distant country, where the eye before was confined to a dark street (for nothing else was the old bridge with the houses on it on both sides); these, I say, all conspire now to render this a most pleasant spot, as well as an airy and healthy part of the city.

But the great expences incurred in purchasing so many houses at once, with which the old bridge was incumbered, also the whole street of houses on both sides called the Shambles, those in Tucker-street and Redcliff-street, &c. to open the avenues, obliged the commissioners from 1760 to 1769 to take up at interest such large sums of money, amounting to 49,000 l. that, notwithstanding an immense toll collected at the bridge, let out at 1505 l. per ann. in 1788, the duty on houses about 952 l. per ann. and tonnage on shipping about 730 l. per ann. (much complained of by the merchants) it was seven years before any part of the sum raised was advertised by the commissioners as ready to be paid off, being 13,805 l.; and 1783, a farther sum of 10,045 l. was discharged; and 1785, a farther sum of 2000 l.; and June 24, 1788, a farther sum of 7916 l. was discharged, being a third part of the bridge debt then due.

Notwithstanding the immense sum expended on the bridge and avenues to it, and the toll still continuing to the great injury and unequal burden of those on the Somersetshire side, and the other duties so long paid, which were much complained of; yet in 1787, application was again made to parliament to raise more money to purchase the houses on the right side of Tucker-street and in Temple-street, to open a new road or street to be called Bath-street, which though greatly opposed by many was yet carried through the house, and an act granted for purchasing the houses in Tucker-street and St. Thomas-street for that purpose, which is now carrying into execution.

N

Besides

\* Shambles, once called Worship-street, as it is in old deeds; and William of Worcester says, p. 170, 189, 237. "Eo quod vicus honoris, &c." because it was a street of honour or dignity, on account of the merchandize of wool landed there, being a port for loading ships, and having the king's cellars," which was proved to be true from the large Gothic arched warehouses discovered next the river, when the shambles were pulled down at this time. This was before any bridge was built, or the Quay made.



Besides the additional beauty and great advantage the city was about to receive from the erection of this elegant new bridge, the spirit of improvement did not stop here; but in the year 1772, the church of St. Leonard, with the arched gateway there called Blind Gate, at the bottom of Corn-street, joining the old wall of the city, and all the houses behind it in St. Stephen's-lane, as far back as the Quay, were taken down, an act of parliament being obtained for that purpose; and a new street laid out on the site of these buildings to make a straight, commodious communication with the Quay on St. Augustin's side from Corn-street, the Exchange, and the center of the city. — The money to the amount of 8000*l.* to effect this was risen by a subscription amongst the citizens; 500*l.* was advanced by the Chamber, and 500*l.* by the Merchant's-hall, and 1000*l.* lent by Lord Clare, member for the city, towards this useful work: the borrowed sums were to be repaid by a sale of the ground, when cleared for the new buildings; the ground rents of this new street, called afterwards Clare-street were sold in 1775 for above 9000*l.* This was a very great improvement as it opened a free passage to the Quay, and a ready intercourse with St. Augustin's parish, and led straight to the Draw-bridge. Soon after by the public spirit of the city a new road and street called Union-street, was laid out to open a better communication with St. James's parish from Wine-street, by a bridge across the Frome into Broadmead, and a new market called St. James's market was established there for the accommodation of that side of the city, and to lessen in some degree the vast concourse of people market days in the center of the city at the market place behind the Exchange, found very inconvenient and troublesome to all who resort to it. The park, called Bullock's park, having also been lately laid out for building two grand new streets of houses called Park-street and Great-George-street, leading from College-green, a new road was hereby opened into Gloucestershire, over Durdham-down: and in 1770 the Bishop's park was also agreed for by Mr. Worrall an eminent Attorney, who procured an act of parliament to enable the Bishop to sell it off for building at a ground rent of 60*l.* per ann. for 90 years, when the lease expires; and renewals must be then made with the Bishop for the time being: this was called College-street and the buildings began in 1772, and already extend to a great length, though the whole is not yet completed.

New ground also in 1786 is laid out for building a row of houses or crescent in the field above Park-street next Brandon-hill; and above College-street on the other side of that hill a new street of houses leading up the hill out of Limekiln-lane



Limekiln-lane, called Brandon-street, has been built lately in a high and pleasant situation.

By so many additional buildings and whole streets being lately erected, it must be readily allowed to have received a great accession of new inhabitants, and how much it has increased in populousness within these thirty years past is almost incredible. In the year 1757 it is said to contain 13,000 houses in all, and 90,000 souls. Anderson in his *Cronological History of Commerce* says "in the year 1758 he perambulated the city for two successive days, and from a near examination of the number of houses on new foundations and streets erected since 1751, he cannot but think it contains not less than 100,000 souls, and is as big as London within the walls. Dublin appears more populous in the streets; but it is the residence of the chief governors, of all public officers, guards, nobility and gentry with numerous retinues of people in the streets without being larger than Bristol, where the inhabitants are private families, manufacturers in employ within doors," &c.

Though the number may not be quite so high as here rated, yet it is certainly a very populous city, greatly increased of late years; and though this calculation may be rather too great a number; that made by Mr. J. Browning in the *Philosophical Transactions* is as much too little. The medium reckoned at about 70 or 80,000 souls may be perhaps nearer the truth.

Houses in Bristol city, besides what are in the suburbs and out of the corporation liberties, which are not reckoned and may be computed at 1000 or upwards.

Houses in Bristol in the several parishes, viz.

Parishes.	Anno 1712.		Anno 1735.		Increase.	
St. Nicholas,	-	-	380	-	-	38
St. Stephens,	-	-	450	-	-	53
St. Mary Redclift,	-	-	280	-	-	122
St. Thomas,	-	-	302	-	-	18
St. Cross alias the Temple,	-	-	240	-	-	140
St. James,	-	-	682	-	-	725
St. Philips,	-	-	263	-	-	67
The Castle Precincts,	-	-	260	-	-	10
*St. Peters,	-	-	221	-	-	9
St. Mary Port,	-	-	104	-	-	0
Christ Church,	-	-	160	-	-	4
All Saints,	-	-	57	-	-	0
St. John Baptist,	-	-	155	-	-	5





St. Leonard,	-	-	68	-	-	68	-	-	0
St. Werburghs,	-	-	57	-	-	57	-	-	0
St. Owens or St. Ewens,	-	-	27	-	-	27	-	-	0
St. Augustin cum St. Marks,			327	-	-	454	-	-	127
St. Michaels,	-	-	278	-	-	350	-	-	72
			<u>4311</u>			<u>5701</u>			<u>1390</u>

Houfes in 1735, - - - - - 5701

∨ In fuburbs not reckoned, about - - - 1000

6701

Additional houfes fince 1735 to 1788, about - - 2000

8701

# Proportionate increafe of the following parifhes.

	Year.		Number of houfes.		Rental.
St. James's,	1744	-	1474	-	7173
	1783	-	1561	-	8201
St. Mary Redclift,	1744	-	504	-	3896
	1783	-	571	-	4598
St. Auguftin,	1744	-	462	-	3585
	1783	-	563	-	4628
St. Michael,	1744	-	357	-	2256
	1783	-	416	-	2359
St. Nicholas,	1744	-	409	-	5466
	1783	-	362	-	4736

By the lift of houfes as laid before the Houfe of Commons by the tax officers (which muft be of 5l. per ann. or upwards) it appears there are of fuch in Briftol 3947, Liverpool 3974, Manchester 2519, Oxford 2316. It muft however be obferved that Liverpool being a new-built city, there may be a greater proportion of houfes of the above defcription than in the very ancient city of Briftol, in which the houfes rated under 5l. per ann. muft be a very great number.

The whole city is in general well-built, yet has never been burnt down and rebuilt, or ever fuffered much by fires: its public halls, and other ftructions have many of them a good elevation; the exchange \* is a fine piece of architecture well proportioned, light and elegant and is a great ornament to the center of the city. That it may not be deftitute of places of rational amufement

\* The public buildings will be particularly defcribed in the hiftory of the parifh in which they are fituated,



ment, the *lenimen dulce laborum*, a theatre was built in the year 1766 by subscription, at the expence of 5000 l. and upwards, and is large, spacious, and well contrived for the purpose, and richly adorned both in the painting of the scenes and carving, gilding, and ornaments of the house; and an elegant assembly or music room is erected in Prince's-street, bearing this motto on its front, *Curas Cithara tollit*. At night the city is well lighted with lamps, the signs being taken down their light is not intercepted; and it is provided with a regular watch by acts of parliament passed for these purposes.

No place can be better supplied with all the necessaries of life, and at a more reasonable price. Water is here to be had always the best and in the greatest plenty; public conduits or pumps, supported at the public expence, are here in almost every street. Leland, in his Itinerary, takes notice of this advantageous circumstance, and has enumerated all the conduits in Bristol in his time.

“ Conduits *cis pontem*. — St. John's, hard by St. John's-gate.\* The Key-pipe, † with a very faire castellet. All Hallow-pipe, ‡ hard by the Calendars, without a castelle. St. Nycholas-pipe, § with a castellet. — *Ultra pontem*. Redcliffe-pipe, || with a castellet, hard by Redcliff church, withowte the gate. Another pipe, without Redcliff-gate, having no castelle. Another by porte waulle, without the waulle.”

To these I may add St. Thomas-pipe, a feather from Redcliff, for which the parish pay 2s. per annum to Redcliff parish, and are always by a covenant to pay one third part for the repairs of all the pipes leading to Redcliff. Temple-pipe, at Temple-gate; the water formerly brought there for the use of the friers of St. Augustin there. And another pipe at the Neptune in Temple-street, a feather from the former. There are also the following public pumps for the use of the citizens: St. Peter's, the Pithay, and one in Wine-street; for the support of all these, benefactions have been left at different times by well-disposed, charitable citizens.

Besides these conveniencies for the supply of water, that no part of the city should be without this useful element, it was brought in elm pipes from a large pond or reservoir, a mile without Lawford's-gate, to the remote parts of the  
city

\* This spring-head is at the top of Park-street.

† The spring that supplies this rises at Glass-mill, a mile and a half distant, and the water is brought hither in leaden pipes, at the expence of the chamber.

‡ This is in Prior's Orchard, above Maudlin-lane.

§ This water was brought by a pipe from the Key-conduit to St. Nicholas, but on building the new bridge in 1764 was taken down.

|| The spring rises above Lower Knowle, and the water is brought in leaden pipes.



city that stand most in need of it for their families and their businesses that require a great supply. This reservoir is filled by a large wheel engine, erected at a place on the bank of the Avon two miles above Bristol bridge. An act of parliament the 7th and 8th of William 3d. passed for this purpose; and in August 1696, Daniel Small, of London, draper, Christopher Fowler and Richard Goddard, of London, merchants, and Richard Berry and Samuel Sandford, citizens of Bristol, on behalf of themselves and others, contracted with the mayor, burgesses, and commonalty of the city, for supplying and furnishing the inhabitants with fresh water at reasonable rates. These persons, interested in the undertaking, were empowered to dig the ground in order to convey the water through any person's lands, except houses, gardens, and orchards, from Hanham mills or other place, in aqueducts or pipes, with liberty to repair and change the same. The sheriff of the county of Gloucester, by a jury of twelve indifferent men not interested therein, upon examining them upon oath, was to ascertain the damages to be allowed the proprietors of the soil: and every one obstructing the undertakers afterwards, were to pay 5*l.* for every offence, half to the prosecutor and half to the poor of the parish. The undertaking was perfected at a great expence, (the whole being divided into ninety-five shares, at 6*5**l.* a share) and water brought thus into the city to its great advantage, especially into such parts of the town as stood most in need of it, at the easy rate of 40*s.* a year to each family who received it.

But this scheme, not answering the expence of the proprietors, was set aside in 1783, and the machine for raising the water appropriated to the use of a grist-mill there erected: the great supply of water for the use of the citizens from pumps and other public conduits, rendering it the less necessary; and the great expence attending the repair of the engine and the pipes, &c. made it at length of little advantage to the proprietors.

The advantages arising to the inhabitants from having coals in plenty so near the city are very great, as well from its use to families as from the great consumption of it in glass-houses, sugar-houses, distilleries, iron-founderies, and the like. It is brought in by horses and in waggons but a few miles off from the city gates, being risen in great plenty in Kingswood, Bedminster, Ashton, Nailsea, and Brisslington. Butter remarkably good and flesh meat, ~~or~~ beef, veal and mutton, the best of every kind, together with all the produce of the kitchen-garden in great abundance, are to be had at the markets, held every Wednesday and Saturday, behind the Exchange and in Union-street; and fish at the Fish-market twice a week, Wednesday and Friday, in Union-street, besides the salmon, cod, mackrel, herrings, plaice, flounders, oysters,



oysters, sprats, &c. brought to the Back by the boats during the season. A market also is held on the Back every other Wednesday, where the Welch boats, arriving at spring tides, discharge the produce of their country for sale; fine salt-butter, poultry of all kinds, roasting pigs, and geese ready for the spit; fruit, as apples, pears, &c. The great brewhouses and malthouses, the bakers and cornfactors, are furnished with corn and flour by water carriage from the West Country and the fertile vale of Evesham, and the counties of Hereford, Monmouth, and Worcester, which is landed on St. Austlin's wharf, at the head of the Quay, out of the trows; or on the Back, where convenient market-houses are built for securing it when landed from the weather, and there exposed to sale every spring tide:—here are also landed great quantities of cyder. Besides these, there was a corn-market in Wine-street, where corn was brought by the neighbouring farmers for sale, now converted into a cheese-market; and a hay-market was established in Broadmead in the year 1786, every Tuesday and Friday. The great market for fat and lean cattle, sheep, and pigs, (great droves of which come in from Wales) is held in St. Thomas-street every Thursday, and is much frequented also by the woollen manufacturers at the season of the year for the purchase of wool, the wool-hall being in this street; of which more particulars in the chapter on St. Thomas parish.

Mr. W. Goldwin, A. M. sometime master of the grammar-school here, in a poetical description of Bristol printed in 1712, after mentioning the market on the Back, and the poultry fold there by the Welch women,

Where cackling geese with cackling females try,

sums up, in the following lines, the plentiful supply of necessaries at our markets:

Here Cornucopia, from her rural flores,  
In various shapes luxuriant plenty pours;  
Bright Cereal grain and sweet Pomona's fruit,  
Or herbage cloath'd in Nature's lovely suit:  
Or tender fatlings from the herd or flock  
The city's wants with life's refreshments stock,  
With thousand dainties of delicious meats,  
Which Catius better knows than verse repeats;  
The plenteous scenes such vast profusion shew,  
As if transplaned fields in cities grew.





It may be just mentioned here, that the dish called *elvers*, taken notice of by Camden, though once in great esteem, is at present not much in request at Bristol. They seem to be a kind of very small young eels, skimmed up at the proper season out of the Avon, betwixt Bristol and Keynsham, and duly cleaned, are made up into little cakes or flat bundles, which fried are good and pleasing to the palate. As the markets, in general, are well supplied with all kinds of provisions, of the best kind and in great plenty, the people here may be said very justly to eat well, or live on the best, of which our city feasts, turtle feasts, and all our public entertainments indeed are a sufficient proof.

Bristol hath the privilege of holding two fairs in the year, each to continue eight days, one on the 25th July, in the spacious church-yard of St. James, the other on the 25th January in Temple-street, the times now changed by act of parliament 1761, to the 1st March and 1st September: of the grants of these more particularly in the account of the respective parishes where they are held: here is usually a great sale then of every thing in the woollen manufacture, cloth coarse and fine, rugs, blankets, stockings, &c. for exportation; as also of Birmingham wares &c. from the several manufactories; also leather at the Back-hall, besides all the pageantry of female ornaments, dresses, trinkets, &c. usually displayed on these occasions.

Having thus described the city in general in its present improved state, and cursorily run over its principal parts, referring for particulars to the ensuing chapters, I shall now add, that the circumference of the whole within the liberties as appears by the perambulation round it, (which to preserve its true limits and boundaries, is made annually, at choosing a new mayor) consists of seven miles two quarters and fifty-five perch, and as it may satisfy the curious and inquisitive, the following account is subjoined. \*

*The*

\* In King John's charter to the city, the bounds of the city are set down thus, — "The metes of the town are between Sandbrook and Bewell, Brightnee-bridge, and the well in the way to Adelbury of Knoll."

Sandbrook seems afterwards to be described in the perambulation as a certain little brook or sluice called Woodwell's lake, where is a stone on the east part of the said brook.

Bewell in the highway to Henbury where was an old cross called Bewell's cross near St. Michael's hill.

Brightnee-bridge on Bedminster causeway.

The well at Adelbury, was that at Totterdown in the road to Knoll, where the road turns to Bath and there was once a well now filled up, and a city stone is there at present.



*The BOUNDS of the CITY on GLOUCESTERSHIRE SIDE.*

Stone.		Per.	qr.
1.	On the bank of the river of Avon, near a limekiln, on the east and a sluice on the west, called Woodwell's-lake, standeth the first stone, - - - - -		
2.	From the said stone, ascending the lane, crossing the said lake, N. westerly, on the west side of the said lake, or rivulet, is a leading stone - - - - -	10	3
3.	From the said stone N. westerly, to a stone on the bank where was a mill to blow lead ore, - - - - -	16	
4.	From thence N. W. ascending the lane, in the midst thereof, is a leading stone, - - - - -	25	
5.	From thence, N. W. to a stone standing betwixt Jacob's well and the vault of the conduit, which leadeth to the college, -	11	3
6.	From thence N. and by W. to a stone in the corner of a wall, where one Bailly dwelt, - - - - -	23	
7.	From thence, N. to a stone in the hedge of a croft, called Long-croft, - - - - -	32	
8.	From thence, on the N. side of the lane, ascending the same, to the S. corner of Pucking-grove, and there entering into a ground, called Honey-pan-hill, standeth a great stone, -	30	
9.	From thence, N. by the hedge and ditch of Pucking-grove, standeth a leading stone in the aforesaid ground of Honey-pan,	30	
10.	From thence, N. N. W. by the hedge and ditch of the same ground, into a ground, called the Welsh-clofe, near the W. N. W. corner of Pucking-grove, is a stone, -	25	2
11.	From the said stone, N. and by E. to a stone in the S. S. W. corner of little Pucking-grove, - - - - -	8	
12.	From the said stone, N. E. and by E. to a stone in the E. and by S. corner of little Pucking-grove, - - - - -	18	
13.	From the said stone, N. W. and by N. to a stone in the N. N. W. corner of the said little Pucking-grove -	6	
14.	From thence, over the hedge, into a ground called the Furlongs, where beginneth Westbury parish, E. N. E. along by the wall, to a leading stone, - - - - -	11	
15.	From thence, E. N. E. by the said long wall, to another leading stone, - - - - -	28	
	O		
		16.	From



Stone.

Per. qr.

16. From thence, along by the side-wall, E. N. E. to a stone fixed on the N. corner of Cantock's, a long fringe of ground, called Spencer's acre, - - - - - 15
17. From thence, E. N. E. to a leading stone in the said ground, near to the N. corner of a ground belonging to the Maudlin's or Bartholomew's of Bristol, - - - - - 19
18. From thence, E. N. E. by the said hedge, is a stone fixed in the E. corner of the same ground, near the highway, which leadeth from Bristol to Henbury, - - - - - 8
19. From thence, into the highway, N. W. and by N. to a stone on the N. W. side of the way, - - - - - 20
20. From thence, N. W. and by N. to a stone in the S. E. corner of Bewell's-croft, - - - - - 15
21. From thence, N. W. and by N. along by the hedge of the same croft, to a stone pitched near the Green-way-grate, on the N. E. side of Bewell's-well, - - - - - 17
22. From thence, along the highway, N. E. to a stone on the other side of the way, - - - - - 3
23. From thence, back again, to a stone on the high bank, over against the cross, - - - - - 24
24. From thence, S. E. and by S. along the N. E. side of the lane, to a stone at the head of Brampton's-clofe, - - - - - 45
25. From thence, into Brampton's-clofe, N. E. and by E. to a stone in the midst of the said clofe, - - - - - 21
26. From the said stone, S. E. and by S. to a stone within the bulwarks, - - - - - 8
27. From thence, S. W. and by W. to a stone pitched on the N. corner of a garden wall, formerly in the tenure of John Pester, of the city of Bristol, woollen-draper, belonging to the heirs of Alderman Jones, and formerly called Mill lane, and one Pownesham's wall, - - - - - 14
28. From thence, descending, S. E. to a stone on the S. corner of a ditch bank in the same ground, near a certain croft called Prior's-croft, - - - - - 10 2
29. From thence, along by a hedge and ditch, to a leading stone in the same croft, - - - - - 17
30. From thence, along by the said hedge and ditch to a stone in the lane, called Maudlin's-lane, leading towards Horfield, - - - - - 16

31. From



Stone.

Per. qr.

31. From thence, along the said lane, called Maudlin-lane, N. and  
by E. over a certain mount, called Colston, to a stone in the  
W. side of the same lane, - - - - - 10
32. From thence, N. E. to a stone in the ditch or trench of the  
bulwarks, - - - - - 20
33. From thence, passing over the works, S. E. to a stone at the  
corner of a hedge of a close, called St. Werburgh's-close,  
at the E. corner of the same close, - - - - - 6
34. From thence, S. W. and by S. by a ditch in the S. E. part of  
St. Werburgh's-close aforesaid, is a stone fixed in a corner  
nigh the ditch of a close, called Prior's-close, - - - 19
35. From thence, descending the hill, S. E. and by E. to a stone in  
the midst of a ground, called the Montagu's, - - - 24
36. From thence, N. E. to a stone fixed in the Montagu's, - 11 3
37. From thence, descending the hill, to the corner of a ditch, S.  
E. in the said Montagu's is a stone pitched, - - - 8
38. From thence, along by the said hedge and ditch, N. E. to a  
leading stone, - - - - - 26
39. From thence, N. E. by the said hedge and ditch, to a stone in  
the midst of a ground, near the head of the said ground,  
called Douce's-croft, - - - - - 34
40. From thence, descending S. E. and by E. into the lane leading  
towards Thornbury, to a stone on the W. side of the same  
lane, - - - - - 20
41. From thence, by the W. side of the same way, directly N. to a  
stone fixed on the corner of a ground going up towards  
Prior's-hill, called Barnsley, - - - - - 46
42. From thence, E. athwart the way, to a little round hillock,  
called Apesherd, is a stone on the same hillock, - 4
43. From thence, N. E. and by E. along the lane, to a stone fixed  
in the N. corner of a ditch, called the upper Stoke's-croft, 23
44. From thence, descending S. E. and by S. to a stone pitched on  
the S. corner of the same ditch, in upper Stoke's-croft aforesaid, 29
45. From thence, N. E. by a ditch of a close, called Meer Furlong  
to a stone fixed in a corner of the same ditch, called Shuter's-  
ditch, - - - - - 18
46. From thence, descending S. E. southerly, to a stone fixed on  
the W. corner of Long-acre, now called Goose-acre, - 28





Stone.	Per.	qr.
47. From thence, N. E. by the hedge and ditch, to a leading stone,	23	
48. From thence, N. E. by the said hedge and ditch, to another leading stone, - - - - -	9	
49. From thence, N. E. by the said hedge and ditch, to a stone on the E. corner of the said ground of Long-acre or Goose-acre,	13	2
50. From thence, N. W. to a stone on the N. corner of the said Goose-acre, - - - - -	2	2
51. From thence, N. E. into a ground, called Long-lands, now Red-furlong, along a hedge and ditch on the S. E. part of the said ground, near Cook's-croft, standeth a stone, - - -	45	
52. From thence, N. W. and by N. by the said Cook's-croft, into the lane, is a stone in the midst of the lane, - - -	13	2
53. From thence, N. E. and by E. into a ground called Open-clofe, near the gate of the N. of Cook's-croft corner, is a stone fixed, - - - - -	24	
54. From thence, S. E. by the hedge of Cook's-croft, and on the S. corner of Open-leafe, is a stone, - - - - -	13	
55. From thence, N. E. and by N. to a stone near the receipt-house of the Key-pipe conduit, - - - - -	27	
56. From thence, round about the conduit, S. E. to a stone pitched on the Ditch-bank of Picked-croft, - - - - -	8	
57. From thence, athwart the way, S. E. and by S. to a stone in the corner of a clofe; antiently called Wrington's-clofe, - - -	2	
58. From thence, S. and by E. to a stone fixed, - - - - -	29	
59. From thence, S. and by E. to another stone fixed near the cause-way, from Brisfol to Lokenbrig, - - - - -	11	
60. From thence, W. and by S. to a stone pitched on the bank of a certain ground, called Sage's-paddock, - - - - -	8	
61. From thence, along the lane, by the S. W. hedge of Old Market-lane, to a stone, - - - - -	52	
62. From thence, along the lane, to another leading stone, - - -	48	
63. From thence, still along the lane, to a stone pitched on the N. ditch-bank of Beggar's-well, - - - - -	37	
64. From thence, S. E. by the N. E. part of Ditch's-orchard, to a stone near the flood-gate, on the N. W. of the river Froom,	32	
65. From thence, along the water of Froom, on the N. part of the said water, to a stone pitched over against the great ditch, leading towards Lawford's-gate, - - - - -	38	



Stone.	Per.	qr.
66. From thence, E. and by S. athwart the river, to a stone pitched on the outside of the said town-ditch, - - - - -	4	
67. From thence, E. S. E. along the outside of the said town-ditch, to a stone in one Townshend's garden, - - - - -	37	2
68. From thence, S. E. and by S. to a stone pitched near the sign-post of the Crown without Lawford's-gate, - - - - -	18	2
69. From thence, athwart the way, S. E. and by S. to the E. corner of a barn, built by one Lord, - - - - -	11	
70. From thence, S. E. and by S. along the lane, to a stone pitched on the corner of a hedge near Enderby's castle, - - - - -	10	
71. From thence, S. W. westerly, along the outside of the town-ditch, to a stone in the said ditch, near an old square tower, on the S. E. part thereof, - - - - -	34	
72. From thence, still along by the outside of the said town-ditch, W. S. W. to a stone pitched at the W. end of a close, anti-ently called Gold's-burges; this stone is in the cellar where one Harvey dwells, on the Plain, - - - - -	35	
73. From thence, still along W. S. W. to a stone at the corner-house, where one Baldwin dwells, - - - - -	21	2
74. From thence, still along W. S. W. to a stone on the brink of the river Avon, - - - - -	14	3

## SOMERSETSHIRE SIDE.

1. At Tower-Harratz standeth the first stone.
2. From thence, along by the brink of the river Avon, S. E. south-erly to a stone fixed at the end of a great ditch, called the Hales, - - - - - 124
3. From thence, lineally W. by the said ditch-bank, to a leading stone, - - - - - 26
4. From thence, by the said ditch, W. to the highway which leadeth from Temple-gate towards Bath, standeth a stone on the E. side of the same way, - - - - - 23 2
5. From thence, ascending the lane, by the N. E. side of Newall's, called Pile-hill-bridge; and so down the lane to the eastward, in the way towards Brislington, is a stone fixed on the N. side of the lane, - - - - - 89 2
6. From thence, directly to a little well, in the way towards Pensford, over the said well is another stone fixed, - - - - - 10 2
7. From



Stone.

Per. qr.

7. From the said stone, to a stone fixed on the E. part of the hedge called Adleburyham, and on the W. side of Pensford-way,	2	1
8. From thence, along by the hedge, on the W. side of the lane, to a stone pitched on the N. corner of Ware-mead, - -	83	1
9. From thence, over a ditch. S. W. to a stone pitched on the bank of on the W. corner of the same close, - - - -	10	
10. From thence, N. W. by a hedge and ditch, to a stone on the N. corner of the said mead, - - - - -	24	
11. From thence, S. W. westerly, to a stone pitched on the S. E. corner of a close, which was of the fraternity of Sattinors,	20	
12. From thence, N. W. by a hedge and ditch, to a leading stone,	17	
13. From thence, to a stone N. W. pitched at the head of a lane, called Red-lane, - - - - -	22	
14. From thence, S. W. to a stone in Redcliff-field, at the head of Ergle's-croft, - - - - -	14	2
15. From thence, S. E. to a stone at the E. corner of Ergle's-croft,	14	
16. From thence, S. W. to a lane which leadeth from Knoll to Redcliff church, on the W. side of the said lane, is pitched a stone, - - - - -	13	
17. From thence, by the hedge and ditch up the lane, N. W. to a stone pitched on the S. E. corner of Redcliff churchyard, near the houses called Cathay, - - - -	29	
18. From thence, descending Cathay-lane, S. and by W. to a stone pitched on the corner of Long-croft of the master of St. John Baptist, - - - - -	49	
19. From thence, along the hedge, W. to the N. corner of the Mayor's-acre, - - - - -	17	
20. From thence, S. W. and by S. to a stone standing upon the bank of a watering pool, in the midst of a ground called St. George's-close, - - - - -	14	
21. From thence, W. N. W. to the highway which leadeth from Redcliff church towards Bedminster, to a stone on the S. E. part of the same way, - - - - -	13	
22. From thence, S. W. and by S. by the same ditch to a stone pitched on the midst of Brightnee-bridge, - - -	31	
23. From thence, athwart the way, W. and by S. into Catherine-mead, to a stone pitched on the W. corner of Cardiff-croft,	14	2
24. From		



Stone.	Per.	qr.
24. From thence, N. E. and by N. to a stone fixed on the E. corner of Catherine-mead, - - - - -	53	2
25. From thence, N. W. to a stone on the N. corner of the said Catherine-mead, - - - - -	30	
26. From thence, S. W. and by W. by an old ditch, to the head of the pool of Trene-mill, to the brink of the water called Bishop's-Worth-brook, at the W. head of the same ditch, is a stone, - - - - -	22	
27. From thence, N. W. and by N. athwart the water, to a stone pitched in the S. E. corner of Shepherd's-clofe, which did belong to the abbot of St. Augustine's of Bristol, - -	12	
28. From thence, lineally N. E. to a stone pitched on the Mill-bay,	27	2
29. From thence, N. N. W. to a stone pitched on the bank of the river Avon, near the same mill, - - - - -	12	

*The City is in Circumference*

	Miles.	Qrs.	Perches.
Glocestershire side, - - - - -	4	2	37
Somerſethire ſide, - - - - -	2	2	18
To Rownham, about - - - - -	0	2	0
Total - - - - -	7	2	55

To the former perambulation is now added all the ground on the left hand on the bank of Avon, leading from Limekiln-dock towards the Hotwells, as far as a stone fixed at the ferry called Rownham-passage; all the houses on that side for half a mile being within the liberties of the city by act of parliament, and the inhabitants subject to it as to civil government, and separated from Gloucestershire. Add to this, beyond the city bounds a town has arisen in St. Philip's without Lawford's-gate, consisting of many streets there, and on St. Philip's-plain; and in the out-parish of St. James, on Prior's-hill, &c. out of the bounds of the city, are many streets of houses, all which are in the jurisdiction and government of the justices of peace for Gloucestershire.

The following plans of the city, views and engraved prints of many admired and striking parts of it and places near it, have been published at different times; — for the entertainment and satisfaction of the curious in these things a list is here subjoined: a proof that Bristol and its pleasant environs have caught the eye and engaged the attention of the curious, and been thought worthy of being described by drawings and copper-plate prints, though





though the history and antiquities of it have hitherto been so little noticed, and a particular description of the whole has never before been offered to the public.

1. Bristol, from Lundy island to Kingroad, including the river Avon, by Capt. Collins.

2. Bristol Channel, from the Holmes to Kingroad, including the river Avon, by Charles Price Heath.

3. The river Avon, from the Severn to Bristol, surveyed by G. Collins.

4. Bristol city, a plan printed about the year of our Lord 1570 in a book, called *Civitates Orbis Terrarum*, Hoëfnagel sc.

5. Another plan, taken from the corner of a map of Gloucestershire, one of Mr. Speed's maps.

6 Another plan, James Millar delineavit et sculp. 1671.

7. Another by the same, with some additional buildings represented in the margin

8. Another surveyed and drawn by John Rocque, engraved by Pine, 1742.

9. A view of Bristol, by James Millard.

10. Another, very small and neat, two inches long and one inch and a quarter wide, by Hollar.

11. A north-west prospect of Bristol, large, by S. and N. Buck, 1734.

12. A south-east view, by the same.

13. A view of the Drawbridge, by Halfpenny, Mynde sculp.

14. A north-west view of the High Cross, with the Cathedral, and St. Augustine's Church.

15. A view of part of Queen-square, by Halfpenny.

16. A north prospect of the Cathedral, by Smith.

17. Another ditto, by King.

18. Another ditto, by Harris.

19. Plan of the Cathedral, Harris sculp.

20. A view of the High Cross by itself, Buck del. et sc. 1734.

21. Mr. Colston's Hospital on St. Augustine's-back and Almshouse on St. Michael's-hill, (fold by Benj. Rome) with an account of his charities.

22. The Infirmary, plan and elevation, by Halfpenny, 1743.

23. Another small one, W. Milton del. et sc.

24. A plan of the country eleven miles round Bristol, from actual survey by B. Donn, 1769.

25. A view of the Hotwells nigh Bristol, Milt. sc. impensis S. Pyc Chirutg.

26. Another by Smith, printed by Palmer.



27. A small plan of the City, by Donn, 1773.  
 28. A small plan of the Cathedral, in aqua tincla, 1785.  
 29. A view of Clare-street, the Drawbridge, St. Stephen's Church, and All Saint's Church, in aqua tincla, 1785.

I shall close this chapter with the following general description of the city in Latin verse.

Cingitur urbs muris, muros cingentibus altis  
 Fossis, et fossas unda proterva replet.  
 Has iterum cingunt viridantes gramine campi  
 Et fata, quæ cereris munere pressa patent;  
 Rura replent pægi, quæ rupibus horrida nullis  
 Vel sylvis, nulla fæda palude, virent.  
 In medio duplex sedet URBS CELEBERRIMA portus,  
 Turrigerum tollens culmen in astra suum:  
 Extendens binos super amnes æmula pontes,  
 Fornicibus magnis flumina magna premens:  
 Vela hinc dant ventis rostratæ turgida puppes,  
 Huc iterum plausu cassis onusta redit:  
 Huc oriens merces, merces occasus et omnis  
 Per mare, per terras advehit orbis opes:  
 Unde fit emporium, cui qui commercia callent  
 Empturi properant undique turba virum;  
 In patriasque suas redientes, omnibus urbis  
 Præstantis narrant haud mediocre decus;  
 Cunctaque mirantes, quibus haud satiantur ocelli,  
 BRISTOLIÆ, dicunt, non reticendus honos:  
 Urbs etenim celebris, spatiosa, fidelis, amæna,  
 Dulcis et insignis, prisca, benigna, nitens;  
 Jura, Deum, regem, regionem, crimina, pacem,  
 Servat, adorat, amat, protegit, odit, habet.



## C H A P. V.

*Of the CIVIL GOVERNMENT and OFFICERS of the CITY.*

**B**RISTOL is dignified with the honourable title of an Earldom, John Lord Digby \* being first so created by King James 15th September 1622, which the noble family of the Harveys † now enjoy. It has the highest marks of honor granted to magistracy, ‡ scarlet gowns, § sword, mace, and cap of maintenance; and the following officers, an high steward, recorder, town clerk, steward of the sheriffs court, chamberlain, two coroners, a sword bearer, water bayliff, clerk of the market, key master, eight serjeants of the mace, and other inferior officers in daily waiting: they hold a daily sessions in the council house (rebuilt in an elegant manner in the year 1705) to hear complaints and accommodate differences, make orders, take bail and commit offenders, besides their more stately courts of judicature at the guildhall (a place of great antiquity) for trial of causes of all sorts, both criminal and civil, and twice a year a general goal delivery is held. The town clerk, who must be qualified in knowledge of the laws of England and a barrister three years at least, presides as judge of the court of quarter sessions four times a year to be held by any three aldermen, whereof the mayor or recorder for the time being must be one, or two of the five senior aldermen are to be two. A court is also held by the sheriffs; and the steward of the sheriffs court must

\* His arms are f. azure a fleur de lis argent with a mullet for difference.

† Arms are G. on a bend argent three trefoils slipped vert.

‡ Gown-days, when they appear in scarlet robes with the insignia of office are, the Tuesdays in the next week after Michaelmas, Epiphany, Easter, and after the 1st July being sessions, also Michaelmas day, and every law-day: also when they go to certain churches to hear the gift-sermons; also on the 5th November and 29th May, when they go to the Cathedral attended by the city companies with their colours and arms displayed.

§ There are four swords — an old one with embroidered sheath, on it is wrote —

John Willis of London Maier,  
Gave to Briflow this sword faire.

A mourning sword with these mottoes, — Statutum est hominibus semel mori, — Memento mori. Another plain one, and one large massy one with a sheath of scarlet and gold, highly embellished, usually carried before the mayor on public days and festivals by the sword bearer.



must have the same qualification as the town clerk. By an order 1605 the recorder, town clerk and steward were not to be elected yearly but continue in their offices as they heretofore have done. By the charters they were all to continue in office for life, but by that of Queen Ann as long as they behaved themselves well. The mayor, aldermen and common council have the custody of the city seal, on which are cut the city arms; this seal is fixed to all warrants, deeds, &c. A writ directed by Queen Elizabeth in the following words, point out the several courts held by the corporation of Bristol; the Staple-court, Tolzey-court and the Pied-powder-court: thus Majori, Aldermannis, & Vice-Comitibus Civitatis seu Villæ Bristolliaë; ac Majori & Constabulariis Stapulæ ejusdem Civitatis; nec non Ballivis Majoris & Communitatis ejusdem Civitatis Bristolliaë Curia suæ Tolesey, ac Ballivis dictorum Majoris Civitatis Curia suæ *pedis pulverizati*, & eorum cuilibet.

#### HIGH STEWARDS OF BRISTOL.

- |                                      |                                  |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1540. The Duke of Somerset.          | of Canary and half a ton of      |
| 1546. Edward Earl of Hertford.       | Gascoign wine ordered him,       |
| 1549. Sir William Herbert.           | as a present.                    |
| 1570. Robert Earl of Leicester.      | 1708. Duke of Ormond.            |
| 1648. Sir Henry Vane, junr. Knt.     | 1756. Lord Chancellor Hardwicke. |
| 1651. Oliver Cromwell, with a salary | 1786. The Duke of Portland.      |
| of 5l. per ann. and a pipe           |                                  |

#### RÉCORDERS OF BRISTOL.

The name of recorder occurs the first time the 18th Edward 3d.

- |                                    |                                     |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1344. William de Colford. He drew  | 1505. William Glenvyll.             |
| up an account of the customs       | 1517. John Fitz-James.              |
| of the city, and the oaths to      | 1541. David Brook, serjeant at law. |
| be taken by the several officers,  | 1549. Robert Kelway.                |
| mayors, sheriffs, &c.              | 1551. Mr. Hippisly, died 1570.      |
| 1394. Simon Oliver.                | 1552. John Walshe, Esq;             |
| 1430. Richard Newton.              | 1571. John Popham, Esq; resigned.   |
| 1439. Sir John Inyn, Knight, chief | 1585. Thomas Hannam, died 1592.     |
| justice of the Common Pleas.       | 1592. Sir George Snigge, Knt. one   |
| 1463. Thomas Young, declined 7th   | of the barons of the Exche-         |
| Edward 4th.                        | quer, died Nov. 11, 1617.           |
| 1468. Michael Harvey.              | 1604. Sir Lawrence Hyde.            |
| 1483. John Twynyho.                | 1615. Nicholas Hyde, Esq;           |
| 1500. John Greville.               | P 2 1640. John                      |





- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1640. John Glanville.              | 1735. Sir Michael Foster, Knt. chief justice of the Common Pleas.   |
| — Edmund Prideaux, Esq;            |   |
| 1645. Serjeant Whylocke,           | 1764. Daines Barrington, Esq; resigned.   |
| 1655. John Doddridge, Esq;         | 1766. John Dunning, Esq; a noted pleader at the bar, <i>quoquo jure quaquá injuria</i> , and for the Americans in the House of Commons: he was created Lord Ashburton, and died soon after. |
| died 1658.                         |   |
| 1658. John Stephens, Esq;          |   |
| 1663. Sir Robert Atkins, resigned. |   |
| 1682. Sir John Churchill, Knt.     |   |
| 1685. — Paulet, Esq;               |   |
| 1704. Sir Robert Airs, resigned.   | 1783. Richard Burke, Esq; brother to the late member.   |
| 1727. John Scroop, Esq; resigned.  |   |

## TOWN CLERKS OF BRISTOL.

This office is very antient here, and requires no explanation. By an order of the 3d and 4th of Philip and Mary, residence is enjoined him, that he may always assist the mayor and aldermen with his advice, draw up orders of counsel, &c.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1463. Thomas Ofenby.   | 1687. Nathaniel Wade, Esq;  |
| 1479. Robert Ricaut, author of the Mayor's Calendar, now extant in manuscript. | 1688. John Rumsey, Esq; restored, died 1720.  |
| 1503. Thomas Harding, Esq; turned out for extortions in his office.            | 1721. Henry Blake, Esq;   |
| 1514. Robert Thorn, Esq; a great benefactor to the city.                       | 1731. Sir William Cann, Bart.   |
| 1510. — Fitz-James, Esq;   | 1753. Sir Abraham Elton, Bart. resigned, on account of his ill health, 1786.              |
| 1554. — Maudlin, Esq;  | 1786. James Kirkpatrick, Esq; who died of a fever in London the same year he was elected. |
| 1640. James Dyer, Esq;   | 1787. Samuel Worrall, Esq;  |
| 1653. Robert Oldworth, Esq;  |   |
| 1676. John Rumsey, Esq; displaced 1687.  |   |

## CHAMBERLAINS.

The office of chamberlain was at first executed here by the prepositors, feneschalls, and bailiffs successively, and was neglected, to the damage of the town, by their daily attendance upon other affairs; but they were discharged of the care of the public buildings, &c. by ordinances, 33d Hen. 6th. which was committed to the two chamberlains appointed 35th Henry 6th.; but one only was instituted to that office by ordinance, 20th Feb. 9th Edward 4th. to whom



whom it belonged by special appointment to receive all rents and other profits of the city chamber, except burges's money, fish money, and the profits of the common hall and castle mills: and he was to have a collector under him to account before auditors, and to have eight marks wages. (Great Red Book of Bristol, p. 214.) But the 15th Henry 7th. the office was more fully settled by charter, by which the mayor and common council were to choose a burges of the town for chamberlain to hold, *durante beneplacito*; he is to take his oath for the faithful discharge of his office; is to have a perpetual succession, with a seal of office with the same power as the chamberlains of London; to receive all the revenues of his office, and out of the same to expend for the use of the mayor and commonalty, rendering account one month after the feast of St. Luke, fully and truly before the mayor and aldermen, or two burges's appointed by them, and the like account a month after he shall be removed from his office. By the increase of the public lands and stock of the city by gift and purchase, the chamberlain's business is vastly enlarged, and it demands more than common attention and care to pursue it with propriety; whence a very able and diligent as well as upright man has been judged necessary for the office, and his stipend has been enlarged, as a greater variety of business has devolved on him. And that the interest of the city may be duly secured under his management, upon being chosen he subscribes a declaration, that he holds the chamberlain's office, determinable the second Wednesday in December after his election, and he does not pretend a right to a freehold therein, and also signs a bond of 3000*l.* to perform duly his office and obey the articles made November 1698.

1306. John de Cheddre, camerarius  
villæ Bristolæ.

1469. Henry Dale, at eight marks  
wages, and to have a collector  
under him.

1507. David Leylon.

1551. John Seybright.

1564. Thomas Hickes.

1566. John Willis, Esq; a very rich  
man, said to be the best chamberlain  
ever known; by his care and partly at his charges  
caufey's, seven miles round  
the city, were made: his administration  
of the city reve-

nue were not only irreproachable,  
but he impaired his own fortune by his various charities; and being reduced, that he  
might not be chargeable to the city,  
he got removed to the wardenship of the Back-hall,  
in which post he died, much lamented by all good men.

1582. Robert Halton, Esq; died soon.

1584. Nicholas Thorn, a great merchant and charitable benefactor.

1603. Thomas Pit, Esq; died May 4,  
1613.

1614. Nicholas



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1614. Nicholas Meredith, Esq;                                | 1707. Thomas Thurlton, Esq;   |
| 1639. William Chetwyn, Esq;                                  | —— James Holledge, Esq;   |
| 1650. James Powel, Esq; recom-<br>mended by Oliver Cromwell. | —— Christopher Willoughby, Esq;<br>died June 4, 1773, and was<br>succeeded by |
| 1670. William Hafel, Esq; died Aug.<br>30, Charles 2d.       | 1773. Richard Hawkswell, Esq; the<br>present chamberlain.                     |
| 1681. John Cooke, Esq;                                       |   |
| 1702. Edward Tocknel, Esq;                                   |   |

### STEWARDS OF THE SHERIFFS COURT.

1711. Nathaniel Wade, Esq;  
1731. Edward Brown, Esq;  
1760. Rowles Scudamore, Esq;

The civil government of this city has been variously modelled, and has undergone several alterations at different periods of time, as will appear more particularly in the subsequent annals; in which will be given a correct list in regular order of all officers. whither under the denomination of præpositus villæ or prepositor, mayor, seneschall or steward, bayliff or sheriff.

Bristol was certainly at first under the government of the lord of the castle, or his deputy the custos or constable of it, in the time of the Anglo-Saxon earls of Gloucester to whom Bristol belonged, and who appointed the præpositus villæ: and for a long time after the conquest, when by the great increase of the town it was necessary for the people and their good government to have its governor or chief officer within itself, he always used to take his oath and charge of office at the castle-gate of the constable there; a good proof, that at first the sole government had been in him.

The earliest title mentioned in an authentic record of any one that bore rule in this city, is to be found in Doomsday-book, T. E. Confess, — wherein the præpositus de Bristol is named SHERUINUS, as holding a manor in Gloucestershire in the time of King Edward the Confessor; and doubtless the prepositor was in early times an officer of judicial authority: whence in the charter of King John the officer named therein provost, is in the original præpositus. This name of office changed into mayor (at whatever period is uncertain) till Edward 3d's. time he was sworn in before the constable of the castle, but by the charter of Edward 3d. (though it does not appear therein when the election of mayor devolved first on the commonalty of the town) it is ordained that after the burgesses had chosen their mayor, the new elected mayor should at the guildhall take his oath and receive his charge of his predecessor before the commonalty there assembled, and it so continues.

The



The following was the order in which the several officers by name took place here successively.

1. A prepositor under the custos of the castle till the year 1215.
2. A mayor and two prepositors which continued from 1215 to 1266.
3. A mayor and two seneschalls till 1313.
4. A mayor and two bayliffs till 1372.
5. A mayor, sheriff and two bayliffs till 1500.
6. A mayor and two sheriffs chosen annually, by whom it hath been governed unto this day.

The city was divided into six wards under the government of six aldermen (of whom the recorder was always one) by charter of Henry 7: what are now called wards were formerly called quarters, of which there were five within the walls, Quarterium St. Trinitatis, quarterium Beate Mariæ in Foro, quarterium omnium Sanctorum, quarterium St. Audæni et quarterium de la Redelive: all which paid 4l. os. 5½d. for the landgable to the King; for landgable without the walls 1l. 19s. 7d. It was 23d. Elizabeth 1581 divided into twelve wards and empowered to choose twelve aldermen, the recorder being one and the senior alderman, who is to be well skilled in the laws of the land, and a barrister for the space of five years at least. They are to be sworn before the mayor, and are appointed conservators and justices of the peace with the same authority and powers as those of London; and any three or more of them, of whom the mayor and recorder are to be two, may hold a court of general goal delivery, &c. and enquire into the damages of the crown. They have also power to choose thirty common council men, out of which are elected annually the 15th September two sheriffs, who are sworn into their office the 29th with the mayor in public before the commons of the city. The whole common council are to consist of forty-two of the better and more discreet citizens, besides the mayor for the time being, the recorder being an alderman and included in that number. They are to assemble yearly before the 15th September, and the major part by their suffrages are to choose and fill up any vacancy so that the number forty-two besides the mayor be always compleat; to make such reasonable laws &c. in writing as may be good, profitable, necessary, and honest for the good government of the city, to levy such fines and penalties as shall seem expedient and requisite to enforce the due observation of such laws; to fill up the vacant offices of recorder, sheriff, common council man, common clerk, steward of the sheriffs court and coroner; some to continue their respective offices as long as they





they behave themselves well, others during life, to alien the time or places of any markets ever held or to be held within the city, to make by laws for their proper regulation &c. provided they are not contrary to the statutes of the realm, &c. Many other privileges and great immunities have been granted to this city by different Kings from the time of King John to the late Queen Ann, who ratified and confirmed all their franchises and liberties and hereditaments whatsoever heretofore used or enjoyed by reason of any prescriptions, charters or letters patent, made and granted by any of her ancestors to the mayor burgessees and commonalty of her city of Bristol, as from the charters, abstracts of which will hereafter be inserted, will more evidently appear.

Great form is observed in election of the mayor on the 15th of September annually; for then the whole body corporate is convened at the guildhall on that occasion. The mayor elect is brought home by the old mayor and the council, attended by all the officers; the sword bearer carrying the great sword: those that have passed the chair, dine with the mayor and the rest of the common council divide and dine at the two sheriffs. After dinner on election days the mayor elect invites the company to his house, and the sheriffs elect invite the company they dine with to their houses. Afterwards they meet in one body and visit the mayor elect, upon whose coming the old mayor's company withdraw. Saturday after the election the old mayor shews the mayor elect the market, and Sunday they all attend in procession to the mayor's chapel, the mayor wearing his fringed gloves, and in the afternoon the mayor elect waits on the old mayor to his parish church. If the mayor rides not round the city bounds, as hath been the custom, the chamberlain and town clerk or their officers with the city mason and city carpenter are sent round to see that the boundary stones and marks are not removed.

The 29th September is the day on which the mayor and sheriffs elect are sworn; when they appear in scarlet with the council in guildhall. When the mayor is sworn, the sword bearer delivers the sword first, then the cap of maintenance into the hands of the old mayor, who presents them together with the seals of office to the new, both kissing them, and the sword bearer then receives the sword from him, when the old mayor gives place to the new.

The old mayor used formerly to stand up in the court to take his farewell of his brethren and the commons in a short speech, the form of which shews the honesty, uprightness and simplicity of our ancestors; part of it, as it proves how much they acted upon just principles, must not be omitted: ad-  
dressing



dreſſing himſelf to the commons there aſſembled in Guildhall, he ſaid: " I heartily pray you, if there be any of you who by my negligence, uncunning or wilfulneſs, have been wronged or hurt in any wiſe, by colour of my late office, or if I have done to any perſon otherwiſe than of right, law, or conſcience, come to me and ſhew your griefs; I am ready to make you amends, if my goods will thereunto ſuffice, or elſe I will aſk you forgivenefs, ſo that you ſhall be well contented and pleaſed." — Theſe are expreſſions ſo truly generous, liberal, and honeſt, that they deſerve to be recorded for future imitation. This cuſtom is diſcontinued now, and inſtead of it the mayor only takes leave of his brethren the aldermen and other officers, by thanking them for their aſſiſtance to him in the diſcharge of his duty, in a ſhort compliment addreſſed to them.

The mayor has 120l. paid by four quarterly payments for his kitchen, and out of every ſhip arriving at the Key, being ſixty tons and upwards, (which in the year 1708 to 1709 was 70 fail, but in September 1764 all the ſhips amounted to 2353 entered inwards at the Cuſtom-houſe, ſo much has the trade increaſed) 40s.; for every bill or letter of health on a ſhip's account, 2s. 6d.; for his pocket-ſeal to every affidavit, certificate, or depoſition, 6d.; for the ſealing of every leafe, 4s.; beſides a good gratuity for making ſome one perſon a free burgeſs of the city. And Mrs. Mayoreſs has 20s. to buy her a muff, and 40s. per annum out of a piece of ground, called the Mayor's Paddock, which formerly uſed to yield her 10l. The mayor's ſalaries and perquiſites are now much advanced; from the 40s. alone for every veſſel ariſes to him a large ſum. But as the income to the mayor varied ſo much at different times, for the better and more regular ſupport of his dignity it was agreed 1777, that he ſhould be allowed 1000l. during his mayoralty, and the ſheriffs 500l. each for their expences, whether their perquiſites produced ſo much or not. \* The mayor has the cuſtody of the city plate, and a bond uſed to be given to the chamberlain of the city of 250l. by every mayor elect, for ſafely redelivering the plate: a ſilver cup with its cover, weight thirty ounces, double gilt, given by Mr. William Bird; one ſilver cup and cover, double gilt, weight thirty ounces, given by Mrs. Elizabeth James, wife of Dr. James; one baſon and ewer of ſilver, double gilt, weight eighty-fix ounces and a half; one other covered cup and a ſinker, both of ſilver, double

Q

gilt,

\* Great diſputes have ariſen lately concerning the town-dues, which uſed to be paid the ſheriff for the ſupport of his office. Among the records of the term of Michaelmas, 18th Henry 8th. rot. 18, ex part. rememb. regis, by virtue of ſtatute 9th Henry 7th. Anthony Bridgegood, Nov. 12, put in his bill and information before the barons againſt Robert Elliot, late ſheriff, for diſtraining four packs of canvas and lokerams, &c. imported by A. B. and obliged him to pay 8d. for keyage of the ſame. Elliot pleaded, that there had been time out of mind and ſtill was a



gilt, weight sixty ounces, given by Mrs. Kitchin Searchfield, deceased, sometime the wife of Mr. Thomas Green, and late the wife of Mr. John Boutcher, alderman; one other silver cup with its cover, double gilt, weight sixty-six ounces, given by Mr. George Smith, deceased, citizen and alderman of London; one silver salt, with its cover double gilt, weighing forty-eight ounces and a quarter, given by Mrs. Mary Burroughs widow, late wife of Mr. William Burroughs merchant deceased; to be and remain from year to year for ever in the custody of the mayor of Bristol for the time being, as a perpetual memory of the givers, and the mayor is to have the use thereof only during his mayoralty, all to be delivered to the succeeding mayor on the 28th of September in St. George's chapel. The mayor gives bond to the chamberlain for the money for his kitchen, lent him interest free, given by some benefactor to this city.

The sheriffs must first be chosen common council men before they can be elected, and if there be not any vacancy in the body corporate, consisting of forty-three, to admit new common council men, then one of the body, or two if wanted, are chosen to serve the office of sheriff again. The following is the oath administered to every common council man.

" You shall be faithful and true to the king's majesty, his heirs and successors, and to the mayor and commonalty of this city, and their successors: you shall come at the mayor's summons to the guildhall, common council-house, and to all places within the franchises of the same, unless you shall have any lawful cause to the contrary: you shall give good and wholesome counsel and advice, according to your best skill and knowledge, in all matters wherein you shall be required for the good and common profit of this city; and no partial counsel or advice shall you give, for any favour or affection, concerning any matter touching the mayor or commonalty or common profit of the same city: you shall secretly keep all such matters as shall be secretly communed of in the council-house, and which ought to be kept secret: you shall

common key upon the back of the river Avon, in the liberty of the town; and for the repair thereof the mayor, sheriff, bailiffs, and commonalty have usually levied and had of all merchants, as well denizens as foreigners, for all merchandize landed, a certain custom called keyage, according to the rate of 12d. for every doili weight, and distrained for the same till they have satisfied for the said keyage; that Maurice Bowcher, importing such merchandize as before paid 8d. keyage for the said goods. The matter being brought before the judge of assize, the jury brought in a verdict for Elliot the sheriff. In the year 1786, these dues to the sheriff, called town-dues, have been again litigated, as oppressive to trade, &c. but after great expence by a trial at Gloucester the merchants were cast, and the sheriffs dues confirmed.

In the little Red Book of Bristol, p. 92. are the letters patent of 17th Henry 3d. dated May 29, stating what goods should pay for keyage, murrage, &c. and how much each should be charged.



shall wholly uphold and stand with the benefit, common profit, and liberties of this city to your power; and truly and indifferently, without favour or partiality, shall give your evidence and counsel concerning the same, according to your skill and knowledge. So help you, God."

Besides the oaths of abjuration and supremacy, the mayor as well as sheriffs take the oaths respecting the just discharge of their offices.

It appears by the great White Book, p. 53. that the Sheriff Dale 11th Henry 8th. disputed with the mayor and aldermen about serving that office, as his yearly charges exceeded the revenues of his office. But on the 4th of October, 11th Henry 8th. John Williams being then mayor, the mayor and aldermen assembled in guildhall by unanimous consent, and commandment of the most Reverend Father in God my Lord Cardinal Wolfey, Archbishop of York, Chancellor of England, in moderation of the charges before this time yearly sustained by the sheriffs of Bristol, and ordained and established by authority of the king's charters to them granted and confirmed the ordinances following.

1. The sheriffs shall receive the yearly profits of St. James's	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
fair amounting by computation to - - -	23	0	0
2. Of the goaler, for the fee-farm of the Goal, - - -	13	6	8
3. Of divers obiits holden in the town, - - -	2	8	4
4. The yearly profits and advantages coming of the Key, by estimation, - - -	66	13	4
5. Ditto of the Back, by estimation, - - -	16	0	0
6. Of Newgate, 27 <i>l.</i> of Temple-gate, 20 <i>l.</i> Redcliff-gate, 9 <i>l.</i> of Froom-gate and Pithay-gate, 1 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> the whole	57	6	8
7. Of the standing of the market-folks in the Market, - -	3	13	4
8. Of amerciaments, nonsuits, &c. in courts, by estimation, -	2	13	4
9. Of the profits of sessions and law days, fines, frauds, blood-sheds, entris, felons goods, escheats, forfeits, and all other casualties, by estimation, - - -	30	0	0
Sum of the profits to be yearly taken by the sheriffs, - £	215	1	8

The yearly payments to be made by the sheriffs.

1. They shall pay the fee-farm of the town, amounting to 102 <i>l.</i> 15 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> —to the abbot of Tewksbury, 14 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> —to the prior of St. James, 3 <i>l.</i> —to the constables and officers of the Castle, 28 <i>l.</i> 7 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> —to the foresters of Kingwood, 11 <i>l.</i> 7 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> —in the whole - - -	160	0	0
2. For the proffers to the Exchequer at Michaelmas and Easter, with the writing and sealing thereof, - - -	5	4	0





3.	The view of the account at Easter, the making the sheriffs account at Michaelmas, and divers other payments, in the Exchequer, - - - - -	l.	s.	d.
		14	10	6
4.	To the steward of the town, his pension, - - -	3	9	4
5.	To the undersheriff, for his fee, - - -	1	6	8
6.	To St. George's priest, his pension, bread and wine, -	5	8	4
7.	To the yearly obit of Richard Spicer in St. Nicholas church,	3	13	0
8.	To the wages of the clerk of the same church, and for keeping the clock there, - - - - -	1	6	8
9.	To each of the four orders of friers 8s. each, - - -	1	12	0
10.	To be spent yearly at St. George's feast, - - -	2	0	0
11.	At the drinking at Trinity chapel, - - -	0	13	4
12.	To the two scabbards for the mayor, - - -	1	10	0
13.	To the cost of Midsummer watch yearly, - - -	20	0	0
14.	For the town liveries in the whole to all manner of officers, for which the sheriffs have the profits of St. James's fair,	25	0	0
15.	For the costs of sessions and law days, - - -	2	0	0
16.	For the writers for their wages yearly, - - -	1	9	8
17.	For the wages to the keepers of the Key, - - -	1	8	8
18.	Ditto to the keeper of the Back, 26s 8d. — to the porter of Newgate, 30s. — Redcliff-gate, 20s. — Temple-gate, 26s. 8d. — Froom-gate, 13s. 4d. — Pithay-gate, 13s. 4d.	7	16	8
19.	Wages to each of waiting yeomen, 1l. 6s. 8d. - -	5	6	8
20.	For the commission of the staple, - - -	1	2	6
21.	For twenty quires of paper, bags, and ferrells for the town clerk, - - - - -	0	6	8
22.	To the town clerk for two law days, - - -	0	6	8
23.	For writing the proffers yearly, - - -	0	4	0
24.	For writing the indentures for the goal between the new sheriffs and the old, - - - - -	0	2	8
25.	For ringing the common bell at Michaelmas, - -	0	4	0
26.	For the messengers of the Exchequer, - - -	0	4	0
27.	At the drinking at the Tolzey at St. Nicholas day, -	0	2	0
28.	To the chamber yearly towards the charges of the burgessees of parliament against such time as any parliament shall be holden, - - - - -	2	0	0
		<hr/>		
		£	268	8 0



All other charges of the town to be always born at the charge of the chamber.

Total of the yearly charges of the sheriffs, - - £ 268 8 0

So that their charges still exceeded their profits besides the costs

of bringing up the prisoners, - - - - - 53 6 4

This curious account gives us an idea of several particulars relative to the sheriffs office and manners and customs of the age; but in modern times new alterations and establishments have taken place.

At p. 124.—10, 11, and 27, is mentioned a charge for drinking and feasting, which shews they were no strangers here to hospitable living and entertainments formerly on public occasions.

20th May, 28 Henry vi. it was ordained by William Cannings mayor, and the common council, that the drinking at St. John's and St. Peter's nights should be wholly to persons of crafts going the nights before the mayor, sheriff and other notable persons, and that the mayor and sheriff on forfeiture of five marks a piece, the one at St. John's night, the other at St. Peter's, should dispense wine to be disposed of to the said crafts at their halls: viz. to the weavers and tuckers each ten gallons; to the taylors and cornesers each eight gallons; butchers six gallons; dyers, bakers, brewers, and sher-men each five gallons; skinners, smiths, furriers, cutellers, lockyers, barbers, waxmakers, tanners, whitawers, each four gallons; masons, tylers, carpenters, hoopers, wire-drawers and card-makers, three gallons each; bowers and fletchers (arrow makers) each two gallons; in all ninety four gallons.

Mention is also made and orders given about the mayor and council going to their Christmas drinking to the abbot of St. Augustin, as hath been accustomed.

It appears by a note in the city books dated 1626 the following officers of the city were yearly chosen:

A mayor elect and two sheriffs elect; mayor and aldermen constables of the staple; mayor elect and four aldermen custodes clavium or clavigers; six aldermen and common council men auditors of the accounts; four aldermen and council-men surveyors of the city lands; four elder council-men assistants in the care of orphans; four of the same assistants with the mayor for the loan money of Sir Thomas White and others; one treasurer and one assistant for the hospital of Queen Elizabeth; two supervisors of the same; two aldermen supervisors of the hospital of Lafford's gate; four supervisors of the free school at St. Bartholomew's; five supervisors of the 60l. for the placing out poor children and provision of coals; four supervisors of the gift money



money of Sir Thomas White and others for the repair of the high ways near Bristol; but it was ordained 15th September 1633 that no person should stand in any of the offices of surveyors, clavigers (and so downwards for the rest) above two years together at one time, the office of auditors only excepted.

Each alderman by an ordinance 12th March 1621, confirmed by another 13th December 1658, was obliged (unless prevented by sickness) to visit his ward once a month for the discovery of strangers and undertenants &c. to remedy any disorders misbehaviour &c. under the penalty of 5l. to the chamber for his neglect therein; and the mayor, unless employed in the service of the King, was not to remain out of the liberties of the city above the space of three days and three nights in the whole year of mayoralty, under the penalty of 100l. by an order dated 20th October 1606; and if he refused to serve the office of mayoralty when chosen he was fined 200l. and disfranchised: John Pope was fined 100l. in the year 1663 for the same. But the honour and profit attending the office now have been such, that the mayoralty has not been refused by any one, especially as the expences incurred by serving the office of sheriff are amply repaid him during the year of mayoralty. The mayor by ancient privilege recorded in the city archives, has the nomination of a second person to be put in election for sheriff and the house the other, one of which is chosen: and in the year 1656, Josias Clutterbuck being chosen sheriff and refusing to serve was fined 300l. and Mr. Thomas Stephens was fined 200l. and committed to newgate for refusal in 1660. But by an order 4th November 1704, any one refusing to serve the office of mayor in his turn if elected, incurred a penalty of 400l. and was disfranchised, and the sheriffs 200l. each in like manner, unless they will swear they are not worth 2000l.

To add a splendor to the office of mayor, and for convenience of his domestic affairs during the year of mayoralty, a mansion house in the year 1784, for the mayor was set apart for his annual residence with commodious buildings, offices and banqueting room in Queen-square, which being so near the trading part of the city, was thought a proper place for the ready accommodation of captains of ships and others, who might want to apply to the mayor in their concerns.

This opulent and respectable corporation are possessed of very large estates both in the city and in the country, in trust for charitable uses and the public emolument of the citizens, for supporting hospitals, schools with exhibitions at the university and almshouses; for establishing lectures and gift-sermons at churches for the instruction of the people in the doctrines of Christianity;



Christianity; for relieving prisoners and confined debtors; for keeping the poor at work; for the marriage of poor girls children of freemen; for repairing the roads round the city, and for other public uses. They have also a large fund of money deposited in the chamber for the use of young tradesmen, those especially in the clothing business to be preferred, 100 l. 50 l. 25 l. or less to be lent to each of them interest free for seven or ten years, they getting security for its repayment then. This has such a natural tendency to promote a spirit of industry in young beginners, and this little stock to begin with joined to the aid of their friends and their own diligence has been known to produce such a good effect, that they have rose often in the world, and thus happily fulfilled and even exceeded the good intention of the donors. By estates and manors vested in their hands, and by purchases formerly made with money out of the city stock, the corporation are patrons of several church livings in the city and country: which they generally present upon any becoming vacant to their fellow citizens or the sons of such, who have been educated at the Bristol Grammar-school, and at the university for divines: this is but just and right, as these advowsons or rights of presentation were purchased formerly by the money of the burgeses, for the disposal of which to the advantage of the citizens the corporation are in trust, though prejudice and partiality have been sometimes known to have misguided their judgment in this affair; and these church-livings have been presented to strangers, in preference to natives and free burgeses, who though they would be glad or stand in need of such a provision, and have been educated perhaps with that view, yet have been so unfortunate as to have solicited in vain; and notwithstanding their natural right and just claim to them have had the mortification to find strangers preferred before them.

The wise old fathers of our city thus gave exhibitions to encourage the citizens to breed up their sons to learning at the university, that some of them might fill the learned professions with credit, and become ornaments of society and reflect honour on their native city, as able and learned divines in possession of these churches.





## In the Diocese of Bristol.

The following livings are in the gift of the mayor, aldermen, and common council of the city of Bristol.

## Deanry of Bristol. — City of Bristol.

## Livings discharged.

## Rectories, &amp;c. with their patrons and proprietors.

Clear yearly value.				King's books.		
<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
5	18	1	St. John's and St. Lawrence's rectory, computed to be about 120 <i>l.</i> per ann. pays a pension of 13 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> to the patrons, - - - -	7	4	7
5	18	11	St. Michael's rectory, about 200 <i>l.</i> per ann. pays a pension of 4 <i>s.</i> - - - -	6	0	0
0	6	8	St. Owen's, alias St. Ewen's rectory, about 25 <i>l.</i> pays a pension of 1 <i>lb.</i> of wax,			
12	5	0	St. Peter's rectory, about 150 <i>l.</i> pays a pension of 1 <i>l.</i> - - - -	6	7	6
43	16	0	St. Philip and St. Jacob's vicarage; mayor, aldermen and burgesses of Bristol. Abby of Tewksbury propr. about 150 <i>l.</i> per ann. - -	15	0	0
33	6	8	Temple vicarage, alias St. Cross, in com. Somerset. Mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of Bristol. Knights Templars olim propr. about 200 <i>l.</i> per ann. pays a pension of 5 <i>l.</i> per ann. -	3	4	2

## Not in charge.

St. James cure, olim a priory, 450*l.* and upwards per ann. pays a pension of 3*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* per ann. city of Bristol patrons. \*

3	8	0	Christ Church or the Holy Trinity, computed at about 150 <i>l.</i> per annum. Mayor and aldermen patrons, olim the abbey of Tewksbury, pays a pension of 10 <i>s.</i> per annum. - -	11	0	0
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## Diocese

\* Vide Willis's Survey, p. 841. Sixteen of the eighteen churches in Bristol are in no archdeaconry, but in the bishop's sole visitation, by his chancellor; though Bedminster, the mother church to St. Mary Redcliff and Thomas in Bristol city, is still in Wells diocese and Bath archdeaconry; and the seventeen out-lying churches and chapels in Bristol deanry, yet belong to Gloucester archdeaconry, notwithstanding they are in this diocese.



Diocese of Bath and Wells. Somerset.

Deanry of Bridgwater, in the Archdeaconry of Taunton.

Livings discharged.

Rectories, &c. with their patrons and proprietors.

Clear yearly value.

l. s. d.

38 1 8

Stockland Gaunts alias Bristol, vicarage. Mayor and burgesses of Bristol. Prior or master of Gaunts in Bristol. About 70l. per annum, -

King's books.

l. s. d.

6 9 4

Deanry of Axbridge, in the Archdeaconry of Wells.

Livings remaining in charge.

Rectories, &c. with their patrons and proprietors.

King's books.

42 1 8

Congresbury vicarage, [St. Andrew] with Laurencewick chapel, [St. Laurence] capellano vii. synods vii s. Mayor and aldermen of Bristol, as governors of Queen Elizabeth's hospital, patrons. Dean and chapter of Wells, proprietors. About 300l. per annum. - - -

Yearly tenths.

4 4 2

Livings discharged.

Clear yearly value.

24 2 0 $\frac{1}{4}$

Locking vicarage, [St. Austin] synods iis. iiid. Proxies iiid. William Plomley, Esq; 1671, pri. Worpspring propr. The Society of Merchants in Bristol. It is about 70l. per ann. -

King's books.

5 6 10 $\frac{1}{2}$

D. Redcliff and Bedminster, in the Archdeaconry of Bath.

Livings remaining in charge.

King's books.

5 10 7 $\frac{1}{4}$

33 15 7 $\frac{1}{2}$

Burnet rectory, about 70l. per ann. -

Clear yearly value.

31 3 6

Portishead rectory, synods v s. viiid. Proxies xvid.

Abby Keynsham viiis. Mayor and burgesses of Bristol. About 120l. per ann - -

Tenths.

3 5 6 $\frac{1}{4}$

The Gaunts or Mayor's chapel, in Bristol, 25l. per annum for the reader, and 1l. 1s. for the sermon every Sunday to the preacher.

St. George's new erected church in Kingwood.

Mayor and corporation. About 150l. per annum.



They not only present to the above livings, but also to many other lectureships, chaplainships, &c. But it must be observed, that the value of these livings in the city chiefly arises from the voluntary contributions of the parishioners resorting to the several parish churches, which have no endowment, some not even an house for the minister, except Queen Anne's bounty and certain sums given by charitable benefactors for gift-sermons to be preached on certain occasions and days appointed. Therefore the value of each church living here must vary every year, and however computed at a medium cannot be exact. The tythes of the city were formerly paid to the abby of Tewksbury from the most early times, being the sum of 14*l.* 10*s.* which at the dissolution came to the crown, and were purchased by the corporation, 24 of C. 2 among other things. But the good citizens of Bristol, though they have opposed any attempt of having an established sum levied upon their houses and lands for the fixed support of the clergy, have hitherto generously contributed to their maintenance; nor given any cause for their applying to Government for relief, which they would probably obtain, as in London, their duties in such large and populous parishes being very great, if a support due to their labours were meanly afforded or partly withheld.

It was a great character, we see given to our citizens in early times, (vid. p. 83.) that "they maintained preachers at their own cost in commendable sort," and there is little reason to apprehend they will be ever backward in generously rewarding the labours of a learned clergy, and supporting the officiating lawfully instituted ministry of the church of England established by law. There were certainly tythes as well as offerings collected formerly for their maintenance, though long since discontinued, as appears from p. 2. of the great Red Book, that 15th kal. Jun. 1301, in seventh year of his consecration, Robert Archbishop of Canterbury issued forth his mandate to the Dean of Bristol, strictly forbidding some irregular proceedings, that in proving wills, they cited the inhabitants to remote places out of the borough, and ordaining the confirmation of the orders made by the bishop of the diocese, relating to the better securing and adjusting the tythes of such persons, who, living in one part of the town, sold their wares in another.

A competent maintenance for the ministers of the several parishes, even in the time of the Protector, was thought so necessary, that on the 5th of October 1657 the mayor and commonalty, by the powers of several acts of parliament, ordained that 90*g**l.* should be yearly levied by way of tax and assessment upon each parish for their support, in the following proportions: St. Michael and St. Austin, 50*l.* St. James, 50*l.* St. Thomas, 120*l.* Temple, 48*l.*

Redcliff,



Redcliff, 40l. St. Philip and the Castle, 20l. St. Stephen, 90l. St. Nicholas, 120l. St. Werburg and Leonard, 85l. All Saints and St. Ewen, 70l. Christ Church and St. John, 120l. Maryport and St. Peter, 96l. And to raise this maintenance by assessment, ("the want of which, they say, is in no place greater") They further ordain: First, that no officiating minister should be debarred from this benefit. Secondly, that the fabric of all the churches should be supported, and their revenues be given and applied to such uses and the same purposes as formerly. Thirdly, they recommend to the several vestries to concert any other proportions that shall be necessary, and will join them to assess and compel the payment of them. Fourthly, that when they meet to make the poor rates to have the allowance of the justices according to law, they shall bring the rate for the ministers maintenance, to have the like confirmation according to act of parliament; all persons over-rated to appeal at the next quarter sessions. Fifthly, that when a minister is to be chosen, it should be in the liberty of each parish to choose their own minister where none is already officiating, provided he be an ordained person or chosen out of one of the universities, and approved of according to the laws of the land. And it appears, that the corporation enforced the execution of the said acts, and the 14th of February 1658, ordered 100l. per ann. out of the chamber's revenue towards the better maintenance and encouragement of the parish ministers.

Notwithstanding the great losses, by contributions and otherwise, this corporation sustained in the time of the grand rebellion; yet we find soon after, in Charles 2d's. time, they had so far improved the city revenues, that they discharged several rents payable to the crown, which had been sold Feb. 6, 1650, for 577l. 12s. 7d. by Oliver Cromwell and the Commonwealth, but being recovered in the year 1673, 24th Charles 2d. by indenture, dated July 24, the following fee farm rents reserved paid annually to the crown out of lands, which had been purchased at the dissolution of religious houses of Henry 8th. by the city, were bought on their behalf by Thomas Lee, of London, Esq; and conveyed to the said mayor and commonalty of Bristol by the Right Hon. Francis Lord Hawley, Sir Charles Harbord, his Majesty's surveyor-general, Sir William Howard, Sir John Talbot of Lacock, Wilts, and William Harbord Esq; trustees appointed for the sale of fee farm rents, and by an act for vesting them in the trustees and by order of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury to them directed. The consideration money for the whole was 3024l. 15s. 1d. and to raise that sum, by an order in the corporation books dated 1671, some fee farm rents payable to the city were sold by them to divers people, but those payable out of the marsh of Bristol (now the square)





were then not thought proper to be parted with, as not to the advantage of the city. But seeing whence these ground rents paid by the city to the crown arose, we discover what lands belonged to religious houses, and what great estates are now in the possession of the chamber of Bristol from the dissolution.

Parcel of the late hospital or house of St. John the Baptist without Redcliff-gate, within the city of Bristol. l. s. d.

For lands and tenements within the city of Bristol, with messuages, tofts, houses, meadows, pastures, rents, services, and other appertinances, lately belonging to the said hospital, (except the site and precinct thereof) a reserved rent of 2 7 1 $\frac{1}{4}$

Parcel of the late monastery of Tewksbury.

For the whole house and site of the priory or cell of St. James, near Bristol, lately belonging to the dissolved monastery of Tewksbury, and all the messuages, buildings, barns, dove-house, pools, orchards, lands, &c. within the said precinct as well as without, to the said cell adjoining. Also for all the rectories of Stapleton and Mangotsfield, with their rights, &c. thereto belonging. Also for the rectory and church of St. James in Bristol, and for the rectory and church of the blessed St. Philip and Jacob in the said city, with their rights, &c. to said cell or priory of St. James appertaining, with right of patronage: and all manors, granges, mills, lands, &c. in Stapleton, Mangotsfield, Itchington, Tockington, Cadbroke, Saltmarsh, and Barton hundred, in the county of Gloucester, howsoever belonging to the said priory, granted among other things to Henry Brain, Esq; by letters patent 35th Henry 8th. for 666l. 7s. 6d. with pensions of 20s. out of the rectory of St. Peter, 10s. out of Christ Church, 10s. 4d. out of St. John's, 1l. 6s. 8d. out of St. Philip's, 4s. out of St. Michael's, 6d. out of St. Ewen's, — at only per annum, 3 10 9 $\frac{1}{2}$

For the reserved rent of 2l. 3s. 4d. out of the manor of Olveston, belonging to the late dissolved monastery of Bath, granted among other things to Sir Ralph Sadler, 2 3 4

N. B. This was afterwards sold off by the corporation to Sir Robert Cann, for 15l. 15s. the same sum the city gave for it.

Parcel



## Parcel of Tewksbury monastery.

l. s. d.

For a yearly rent of 14l. 18s. 2d. out of the chantry of St. Michael in Winterborne, and lands, &c. thereto belonging in Winterborne, Froomshaw, Churchfield, Hambroke, and Cliffield, in Gloucestershire, paid by the sheriff or chamberlain of Bristol, - - - - -

14 18 2

Parcel of the possessions of the late monastery of Bath, assigned for life to the Queen Henrietta Maria, for her jointure.

For all that yearly fee-farm rent of 41l. 3s. 5d. residue of 95l. 3s. 5d. issuing, due, and payable out of the manor of Congersbury, Somerset, and for the patronage of the church of Congersbury, and its appertenances: also the courts leet, &c. in Congersbury and Lawrence Wick, paid by the city of Bristol, - - - - -

41 3 5

## Parcel of the house of St. Mark of Bellifwick.

For all that yearly rent of 20l. per ann. payable by the city out of the house and site of the hospital of St. Mark of Bellifwick, near Bristol, called les Gaunts, and for the church, belfry, churchyard there, and for the manors of Erdcot and Lee in Gloucestershire, to it belonging; and for the manor of Stockland Gaunts, with its rights, members, and appertenances, in Somersetshire, to the late dissolved hospital belonging; and the donation, patronage, and free disposition of the vicarages of the churches of Stockland Gaunts and Overflowey; and also for the manor, &c. of Winterbourne Gonner, called Cherburg, in Wilts, with its rights, &c. to the said hospital heretofore belonging; and out of and for all meadows, granges, tenements, and hereditaments, &c. to the said manors and premises belonging, in the town of Bristol, or the parishes of Lee and Almondsbury, in the county of Gloucester, or in Stockland Gaunts, Overflowey, and Brewham, in Somersetshire, or in Winterborne Gonner, in Wilts, to the late hospital les Gauntes belonging, as parcel of the said house or hospital, (except the manor of Pawlet Gaunts, Southam, and Northam, granted by letters patent of Henry 8th. to Richard Cupper) and also for and out of the manor of Hampe and its rights and appertenances, in the county of Somerset; parcel

of



of the late monastery of Athelny, and messuages and lands in Hampe afore said in the tenure of Sir Richard Warre; and for the site of the house of Grey Friars, Carmelite Friars and their appertinences, all purchased of Henry 8th 33d. year, for the sum of 1000l. and 20l. per annum rent, - 20 0 0

Parcel of the ancient crown lands.

For the ferm of the castle of Bristol with its appertinences the mansion house within the castle in the tenure of Francis Brewster, the close lying without the ditch of the said castle called the King's orchard; the inner green and for forty three several tenements within the circuit or walk of the castle, and for the wood yard there, and three gardens there, and barns, stables and other premises; and for the walls, towers and ditches inclosing the said castle reserved in purchase of the castle of C. 1st. an. regni. 6<sup>o</sup>. - - - - - 40 0 0

Parcel of chantry lands lately concealed.

For and out of the fee-farm of the chapel or hospital of the holy Trinity in the parish of St. Phillip and Jacob, and all the lands &c. belonging thereto at the rent of twenty shillings, also for the fee-farm of the chapel of the three Kings of Cologne, in the parish of St. Michael and the lands thereto belonging, an annual rent reserved of 13 s. and 4 d. for it, both granted to Peter Gray by Queen Elizabeth by letters patent dated 8th day of March, in the 19th year of her reign, paying yearly per annum, - - - - - 1 13 4

Parcel of lands of the priory of St. Mary Magdalen of Bristol.

For a rent assize of one tenement on the Back of Bristol, - 0 4 0  
 For an annual rent or tenth reserved for all the tenements, lands and other premises within the city of Bristol, paid by the mayor and burgessees at per annum, - - - - - 2 7 1 $\frac{1}{4}$   
 For an annual rent issuing out of the office of water bayliff of Bristol, granted to the mayor and burgessees by Henry 7th 18th December, 15th year of his reign, — paying - - - 0 13 4  
 For a fee-farm rent issuing out of the tythes of the city of Bristol, payable by the sheriffs at per annum, - - - - - 14 10 0

For



For an annual rent issuing out of an ancient farm of the city of Bristol granted to the mayor and commonalty at per annum (being paid for the fee of the city and its suburbs, gates, ditches, walls, the rents of the flesh shambles there, shops, mills, waters running to the mills, tolls, courts, fairs &c. which farm was granted 1 Edward 4th 12th Feb.)

- 142 10 0

The sale of the afore-mentioned fee-farm rents were contracted for betwixt the city and the crown 30th August 1671. viz. 2l. 7s. 1d $\frac{1}{4}$ . per annum: 1l. 13s. 4d. per annum: 3l. 10s. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per annum: 2l. 3s. 4d. per annum: and the 20l. per annum, at sixteen years and half purchase, and for the thirty three shillings and four pence per annum, the 4s. per annum, 14l. 18s. 2d. per annum, the 14l. 10s. per annum: and the 41l. 3s. 5d. per annum, at sixteen years purchase, — and for the reversion after the Queen of the rents of 40l. 0s. 0d. per annum: and 142l. 10s per annum, at eight years purchase. The clear money paid was 3024l. 15s. 1d. though the rate of the particulars aforementioned at the rates expressed is £ 3078 6 2 Deduct interest for one moiety for 139 days from the 9th

November 1671, at the rate of ten per Cent, &c. - 53 11 1

The clear purchase of the whole - - - - - 3024 15 1

A purchase so well judged by the governing members of the city at that time, that they cannot but be greatly applauded for it by their successors at this day, as by clearing the city lands from the incumbrance of ground rents payable to the crown, it has rendered these estates they purchased very reasonable at first of the crown in Henry 8th's time much more valuable now; and has enabled the corporation to found hospitals, increase almshouses, improve their original endowments and render the public charities more extensive, and employ larger sums of the public money to public uses and the beneficial advantage and emolument of the citizens. Besides these great estates the corporation are possessed of the manour of Burnet in the county of Somerset, by the gift of the good and truly charitable Mr. Alderman Whitson, for the perpetual support and education of poor girls, and erecting a school called the Red Maids School; they have also estates at Weston in Gordano in the county of Somerset; at Hinton Derham and Winterborne in the county of Gloucester; at Portishead in the county of Somerset; at Congersbury the manor; at Overflowey and Stockland-Bristol in Somersetshire; the manor of Gaunts Ercot and the Lea; lands in Stapleton, Portbury, Ashton,





Ash-ton, Brillington, and at many other places as well distant from as near to the city; and an infinite number of houses, lands, &c. within the city itself and in the suburbs, the market, the whole of Queen-square, Prince's-street, part of College-green, all Orchard-street, &c. all which are leased out on lives, paying ground rents, &c. besides several estates in hand, ground rents, and rents from all the standings in the several markets, &c. As these were given in trust for charitable uses and common profit of the city, they will be noted more particularly, and each endowment given, in the parish where those charities are established; or in the annals, under the year when they were bestowed on the city.

The following is a short scheme only of the general charities that have been established, and agreed on as payable yearly by the chamberlain, besides the larger foundations for the support of schools, hospitals, and others, hereafter to be particularized.

In 1737, on the 14th of December, an order of common council was made for a committee to inspect and examine into the several charities given to the chamber, and payable by them, and for which they stand in trust.

The first sitting, December 16, 1737, Nathaniel Day, mayor.

The last sitting was August 17, 1739, William Jefferies, ditto.

1566. Sir Thomas White's gift, in the year 1738 produced, to be lent to burgessees, 50*l.* each, for ten years, interest free, on security; clothiers and cloth-workers to be preferred, - - - - - 1400 0 0
1579. John Heydon, 100*l.* to two merchants for four years, paying 1*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* each for interest, to be given the prisoners in Newgate. - - - - - 100 0 0
1532. Robert Thorn, 500*l.* to clothiers and others, who set the the poor at work, 50*l.* each, for ten years, interest free. - - - - - 500 0 0
1634. Alderman Robert Aldworth, 1000*l.* to those who set the poor at work, 50*l.* each, for ten years, interest free. 1000 0 0
1634. George White, 200*l.* 20*l.* each to ten men, for ten years; clothiers to be preferred. - - - - - 200 0 0
1627. Alderman John Whitson, 500*l.* 250*l.* to five young men, being meer merchants, for seven years, 10*s.* a year interest to the poor of St. Nicholas parish in Bristol; and 250*l.* to handicraft tradesmen, inhabitants and free-men of Bristol, for seven years, interest free. - - - - - 500 0 0

Alder-



Alderman Robert Rogers, 100l. to ten burgesſes, for five years, intereſt free; ſoap-boilers to be preferred.		l.	s.	d.
		100	0	0
1627.	John Dunſter, 100l. to ten handicraftſmen, free burgesſes, for five years, intereſt free.	100	0	0
1623.	Thomas Jones's executors paid 380l. 20l. a piece to free-men, for fix years.	380	0	0
1594.	Alderman Robert Kitchen, 125l. to five merchants, 25l. each, for five years, intereſt free; and 250l. to free-men, by 5l. and 10l. each, for five years, intereſt free.	375	0	0
1651.	Robert Redwood's executors paid 250l. 10l. to burgesſes, for five years.	250	0	0
1616.	Dr. James, 50l. to five burgesſes, for two years, intereſt free.	50	0	0
1629.	Alderman Doughty, 100l. to ten handicraftſmen, for five years, intereſt free,	100	0	0
	Margaret Brown, ten pounds.	10	0	0
		<u>£ 4965 0 0</u>		

Theſe are the benefactions of the loan money, \* and the meetings to receive petitions from the burgesſes for it are, the ſecond Tueſday in October, ſecond Tueſday in January, ſecond Tueſday in April, and the ſecond Tueſday in July.

In a manuſcript wrote in 1746, and copied from the Council-books, the following are the yearly payments to be made by the chamber of Briſtol, viz.

Sir Thomas White, to twenty-four corporations, to each yearly	l.	s.	d.
in rotation,	104	0	0
Humphrey Brown, to Weſtbury pariſh,	2	10	0
To Iron Aſton,	2	10	0
To St. Werburgh's, for four ſermons,	2	0	0
To St. Nicholas, for a lecture,	20	0	0
Abel Kitchen, for apprenticing poor boys,	14	0	0
To All Saints' church,	3	6	8
To Temple,	3	2	0
To Chriſt Church,	3	18	0
To Weſtbury,	0	13	4
To the vicar of Kendal, for a ſermon,	0	10	0
To the vicar of St. Stephen's, one Sunday in Lent,	0	10	0

S

Robert

\* A table of this loan money was fixed up in the Council-houſe in the year 1738.



			<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Robert Kitchen, to parishes, viz.	St. Stephen,	-	2	0	0
	Maryport,	-	2	0	0
	All Saints,	-	0	10	0
	St. Nicholas,	-	2	0	0
	St. Peter,	-	2	0	0
	St. Ewen's,	-	1	0	0
	St. Augustin,	-	1	10	0
	St. Thomas,	-	1	0	0
	St. Philip's,	-	2	0	0
	Temple,	-	2	0	0
	Redcliff,	-	2	0	0
	St. James,	-	2	0	0
	St. Michael's,	-	1	10	0
	St. John's,	-	1	0	0
	St. Leonard's,	-	1	0	0
	St. Werburgh's,	-	0	10	0
	Christ Church,	-	2	0	0
William Chester, to the poor of St. John's,	-	-	7	16	0
	To the almshouse on St. James's-back,	-	0	4	0
Thomas White, to almshouses of St. John, St. Thomas, St. Michael, Lewin's-mead, 4s. each per month, is by the year,			9	12	0
	To St. John's conduit,	-	1	0	0
	All Saints' ditto,	-	1	0	0
	To Newgate prisoners,	-	1	1	8
George White, to the prisoners in Newgate,	-	-	5	0	0
	To a scholar in Oxford,	-	5	0	0
J. Heydon, to the prisoners in Newgate,	-	-	3	6	8
Alderman Aldworth, ditto,	-	-	1	0	0
Alderman Haviland, for twelve sermons in Newgate,	-	-	4	0	0
Mr. Lambert, to the hospital of Trinity,	-	-	0	16	0
Joan Ludlow, to the almshouse of St. Michael's,	-	-	1	0	0
Mrs. Wheatly, to All Saints almshouse, Nov. 1.	-	-	0	10	0
Paid yearly by the corporation for charities and sermons, &c. £			224	6	4

These annual general charities were established by the committee, whose meeting ended 1739, as were all those that are marked with an asterisk (\*) in the list of wills and in the ensuing annals to be given below.



In 1626, 18th October, it was agreed, that "in lieu of charities which could not now be restored to their right first intended use, 50*l.* per annum was ordered to be always given to place out burgessees' children, and 10*l.* per annum to buy coals for the poor; and in 1622, a quarter part of the said 50*l.* was to be applied for placing out poor girls, and in 1626 a quarter part to Bridewell prisoners." In 1634, 6*l.* per annum was agreed to be paid yearly to maimed soldiers and other impotent persons, out of Codrington's lands in Portifhead.

Many of Robert Thorn's gifts do not relate to these times, because applied before, according to the donor's will; so also those of Nicholas Thorn.

In 1625, the mayor, J. Barker, Alderman Whitson, and others, were appointed to cause a table of benefactors to be made, and set up in some convenient place or in the council chamber.

In the year 1659, 6th Jan. it was ordered in the Common Council Book, No. K 6. that, "whereas several sums of gift money have been applied by the chamber to different uses, the committee of the said gift money do appoint what seals of the city or of the chamberlain should pass for such monies as did properly belong to each several donation and settlement of the worthy benefactors to pious uses, to the end the city may be fully engaged to make the same good again." So conscientiously exact and scrupulously honest were they in applying the money and estates left to the city's use, according to the wills of the respective donors!

In the year 1677, 5th May, order was made, "that 1300*l.* of gift money Alderman Lawford then acknowledged to be in his hands, and that other monies upon that account in his custody, be received by the chamberlain, and be put into a chest with four locks and keys, and Mr. Mayor with three other of the aldermen be clavigers; other clavigers in succession to be elected on the general day of election of the mayor and other officers, which clavigers are to dispose of the monies." L. p. 101.

October 13, 1659. The following order appears in the Council Books, I. I. p. 115, "whereas there appeared to be a sudden occasion for the mayor and aldermen to be satisfied and informed as to the foundations, constitutions, orders, and statutes of the respective hospitals, and of the lands rents and revenues belonging to them; it is ordered, that a committee, with the mayor and two aldermen clavigers and town clerk, search into the respective charters records and evidences relating thereto, and draw up their sentiments in writing." And in 1680, 31st Charles 2d. 5th of February, the following entry is made: "Whereas there is an act of parliament of the





39th Elizabeth whereby the mayor and aldermen, or any four of them, the recorder and mayor to be two, are made special governors and visitors over all monies goods and other things given to charitable uses within the city by any person, and to make orders for the due employing the same and to compel all persons to yield obedience thereto, notwithstanding which the same is not obeyed: but in regard other persons have taken out commissions and do act contrary to the said statute; it was therefore enacted that Mr. Recorder, Sir John Knight and Sir Robert Cann take care to preserve the rights and privileges granted by the said act, and to oppose all proceedings against it.

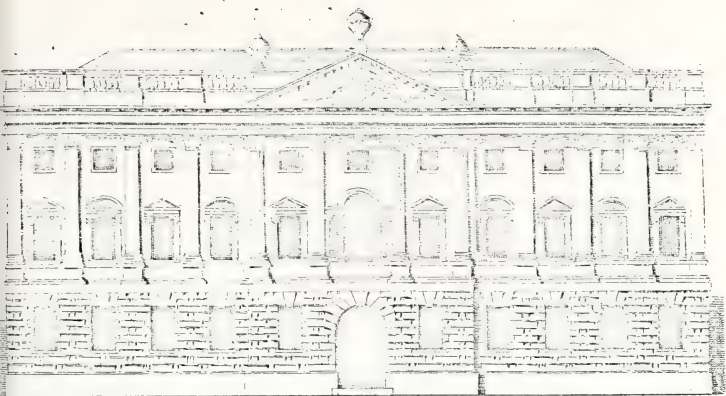
The ground rents reserved both of the city and country estates belonging to the chamber of Bristol given for charitable uses and the common profit of the city, are upwards of 3000l. per annum, and including the rents of the market-houses and standings, some estates in hand not leased off, with the great additional income arising from fines and for renewals of leases upon lives continually dropping in such a number of estates small and large as they are possessed of, the whole amounts to above 10,000l. per annum: in the year 1778, all their estates and rents produced 14,000l. per annum, though their produce must vary greatly at different times.

Enabled with these large estates this opulent corporation have not been wanting, besides the above standing annual disbursements and others for the public charities, &c. in expending large sums for the general good of the city and better accommodation of the citizens; particularly, they have purchased ground and builded thereon a new Exchange and erected a new Market behind it at an expence of more than 50,000l. besides doing other public works occasionally to be recited hereafter to their honour.

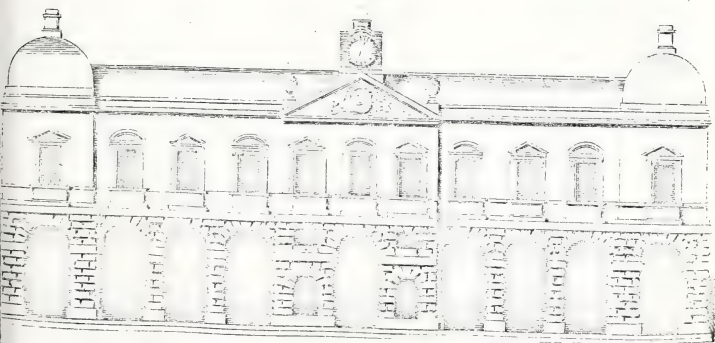
Great and numerous are the charities in the disposal and management of the mayor and aldermen, yet the poor of the city for their weekly support are under the immediate rule of the governor deputy governor assistants and guardians of the poor incorporated by act of parliament, of which see in St. Peter's parish below.—But besides the mayor, aldermen and common-council of which the corporation consist, and who form the civil government of the city (a regular list of whom from the earliest time will be given below in the annals) there are others, who reflect an honour upon the city by their distinguished office, namely the members of parliament, chosen and sent up by the suffrages of the freemen to watch over their liberties and to transact the national business and those affairs the city may be particularly interested in.

Bristol was a borough at the Conquest, before Henry 1st's time, as appears by a charter of his without date, wherein the inhabitants are styled by the  
name





*The Front View of the Exchange*



*The back View of the Exchange*



name of burgesſes, and in the records of the city is ſtill extant a manuſcript kalendar compiled by Mr. Ricaut in Edward 4th's time, wherein it is affirmed to be held of the crown in frank burgage, and to have enjoyed " its fraunchiſes by libertyes and auntiaunte free cuſtoms time out of mind as the city of London; and conſequently to have its ſaid liberties confirmed by Magna Charta as London and other enfranchiſed places had." On which account Mr. Ricaut at the end of the kalendar has for the uſe of the magiſtrates exhibited another valuable manuſcript, being a true copy of the cuſtoms of London, contained in a book belonging to Henry Dravey who in the time of King Edward 3d. was recorder of that city. It is alſo to be noted, that in the privileges granted to Briſtol by many of our kings, it is declared that the city ſhould enjoy the ſame in as ample manner as London itſelf. But that it was a borough before any of the charters have mentioned, ſome words contained in thoſe of King Henry and King John prove; who while Earl of Moreton only enlarged the privileges of it: and it was afterwards made one town incorporate by Redcliff and Briſtol being united, before which time the two parts of the town were under the rule and direction of the ſheriffs and officers of its proper counties Gloceſter and Somerſet, and ſubject to the juſtices of aſſize and King's miniſters there, as other boroughs were. It had alſo its guilds in early times; King John's charter taking notice of them as if very flouriſhing then and moſt probably before the Norman's arrival; when it was governed by its own lords or thanes, like the German Burgraves: ſo that it may be concluded, Briſtol in the Saxon and Norman times had its lords, thanes, or earls (comites,) under whoſe eſtabliſhment were appointed prepoſitors; and this form of magiſtracy continued till the 1ſt of Henry 3d. as before mentioned. The great privileges granted by the charters of ſeveral Kings both with reſpect to appointing its own officers for the civil government of the city as well as the liberties and advantages it has enjoyed thereby for repairing and improving the town from time to time will fully appear by conſulting the letters patent and charters themſelves, which will be inſerted in the ſubſequent annals of the city under the year in which the ſeveral grants were made.

Briſtol being thus an ancient borough and town-corporate, it ſent very early two burgesſes to the great council or parliament of the kingdom by ancient preſcription, though then called a burgh or borough, (yet, of great note, trade, antiquity, wealth and renown) having liberties and officers within itſelf: theſe two men were choſen formerly by the corporation and frecholders of 40s. per annum reſiding in the place and by the principal merchants



merchants (Com-burgeses, fellow-burgeses) inhabiting within its walls, as appears by some ancient returns that were then made: and in the by-laws of the corporation in the time of John Barker merchant, mayor, 1st Charles 1st; it is enacted, "that whensoever any writ for election of knights, citizens or burgeses for the parliament, shall come to the sheriffs of this city, the election shall be made by the mayor, aldermen and common council for the time being, and by the free-holders resident within the said city and by none else;" and it would certainly prevent much riot confusion and expence, had it taken place and thus continued. These when chosen were to answer as knights of the county and burgeses of the town and borough of Bristol. But since the restoration the returns often mention the election to be made by the citizens at large to the number of 2000 and upwards, and the right of election is now and has been (as far as the memory of man can go) in the mayor, aldermen, common-council and all the burgeses (except such as receive public relief from parishes or almshouses) and all the free-holders of the county of Bristol qualified according to law. This was the right universally agreed on at the many, too many contested elections in 1679, 1680, 1689, 1695, 1705, 1710, 1713, 1714, 1721, 1727, 1734, 1739, 1754, 1758, 1774, 1780, &c. and so continues; and each freeman's vote is regularly scrutinized by obliging him to produce the copy of his freedom and putting him to his oath as well as every free-holder, if required. Hence a general election of members here produces such riot disturbances and trouble and is attended often with such rancour and animosity between neighbours, as perhaps will not sometimes quite subside before the return of another election. So that party is said here to have been carried, unhappily carried to as high a pitch as in any place in England, and the long list above of contested elections in so small a compass of years is a lamentable but too convincing proof of it; though at present this party zeal begins to abate and a more prudent, and temperate way of thinking to take place.

Bristol being anciently parcel of the county of Gloucester, the sheriff of that county used to issue his precept to the mayor and commonalty to elect two burgeses, who were returned by the two sheriffs of Gloucester and the return endorsed on the back of the writ by the said sheriffs thus, "*Nomina Burgensium pro Communitatibus Burgi Bristolie electorum essent: ad dictum parliamentum Walterus Derby, Johannes Stoke.*" These were the last burgeses for Bristol, that were returned by the sheriffs of Gloucester 46th Edward 3d. anno 1372.





The following is the original form by the sheriff of Gloucestershire, 1314, the 8th of Edward 3d. apud Spalding on the dorfe of the writ: "Quod venire facias duos burgenſes de villâ Briſtol, iſtud breve retornatum fuit cuſtodi libertatis villæ Briſtol, qui ſic mihi reſpondebat: Eligere feci Robertum Wildemarthe et Thomam le Elſpoter eſſend. ad parliamentum apud Weſtm. in Oſtabus St. Hillarii, qui manucaptors eſſend. ad diem et locum prædiſcos invenire recuſarunt, per quod propter eorum vim, malitiam et reſiſtentiâ de executione iſlius mandati ulterius faciendâ intermittere non potui." Theſe Briſtol burgeſſes, reſuſing to find manucaptors, put the ſheriff of Glouceſhire to a nonplus.

The firſt writ iſſued to the ſheriffs of Briſtol for electing burgeſſes, after it was made a county within itſelf, is the following, which as it is curious and directs the qualifications of the members to be choſen, and was diſcovered in the White Tower and formerly unknown, I ſhall ſubjoin, tranſlating it into Engliſh:

"Edvardus, Dei gratia, &c."

"Edward, by the grace of God, &c. to the ſheriff of Briſtol wiſheth health. As by the advice of our council, we have appointed a parliament to be held at Weſtminſter, on the morrow of Saint Edward the king's day next to come, to talk and treat with our prelates noblemen and chief men, of ſome difficult and urgent buſineſſes, as well concerning us and expediting our war and the right of us and our crown beyond ſea, as alſo of the ſtate and defence of our kingdom of England and of the Engliſh church: we command you, ſtriſtly enjoining it, that you cauſe to be choſen two burgeſſes of the foreſaid county out of the more diſcreet and more ſufficient men, who have the beſt knowledge in navigation and exerciſe of merchandize; and cauſe them to come to the place and at the time appointed, ſo that the ſaid burgeſſes may have full and ſufficient powers for themſelves and the community of the ſaid county, to act and conſent to thoſe things, which then may happen to be ordained (the Lord favouring us) by the Common Council of this our kingdom in the buſineſs aforeſaid: ſo as that our buſineſſes do not remain in any wiſe undone, through a deſect of the power in them, or through an improper choice of the ſaid burgeſſes. We would not that by you or any other ſheriff of our kingdom, any one ſhould be elected of other condition than what is ſpecified above, and let us have there the names of the ſaid burgeſſes and this brief. Witneſs myſelf, at Weſtminſter, the 4th of October, 47th year of our reign over England."



On the dorſe thereof return is made thus: “ Virtute illius, &c.” “ By virtue of this brief I have cauſed to be choſen and to come to the preſent parliament of the Lord our King at Weſtminſter, on the morrow of St. Edward’s day next, two burgeſſes of the more diſcreet and more ſufficient men, who have the beſt knowledge of navigation and merchandize, viz. Walter Derby and Thomas Beaupine.”

To omit all other returns, which were indorſed on the writs themſelves, till 12th Henry 4th. 1410, when the firſt indenture for Briſtol was annexed to the writ thus:

“ Hæc indentura facta, &c.”

“ This indenture, made between John Spynce, ſheriff of Briſtol, on the one part, and T. Young, mayor of the town of Briſtol, T. Droys, T. Blunt, J. Soly, J. Leiceſtre, J. Sutton, W. Bouley, J. Fiſher, W. Frome, W. Barret, &c. &c. of the ſame town, on the other part, witneſſeth, that by virtue of the brief of the Lord the King, to one part of theſe indentures annexed, in a meeting held at Briſtol, Monday 26th day of Oſtober, 13th year of King Henry 4th. the more diſcreet and more ſufficient men being gathered together, Thomas Norton and David Dudbroke, merchants and burgeſſes of the town of Briſtol, were elected to be in the parliament to be held by the king at Weſtminſter, on the morrow of All Souls, to answer as well knights for the county of Briſtol as burgeſſes for the ſaid borough; which ſaid Thomas and David, being preſent at the election aforeſaid, were forewarned to appear together in the ſaid parliament on the morrow aforeſaid, with the conſent and aſſent of the ſaid mayor, and of the aforeſaid honeſt men and of the whole town of Briſtol, to do all things that may or ſhall happen to be ordained in the ſaid parliament, and all other things that the ſaid brief requires. In witneſs whereof, the aforeſaid ſheriff and the ſaid mayor, and all the honeſt men above-named, have alternately put their ſeals to theſe indentures, the year and date above-written.”

The writs and indentures were nearly verbatim the ſame till about the 25th year of Henry 6th. 1447, which were both enlarged; the former by inſerting in it the new ſtatutes, and directing the election to be made by the “majority of men dwelling in the ſame county, who have a freehold of forty ſhillings a year at leaſt above reſpitals, and reſidents there; and giving the ſheriff power to examine upon oath every elector, if he has forty ſhillings per annum: and if he make a return contrary to this ordinance, the judges at the aſſize were to make inquisition into the matter, and if the ſheriff be convicted, he ſhall incur the penalty of 100 l. and be imprifoned for one year without bail; and the knights



so returned shall lose their wages. They were to be knights, esquires, or gentlemen, none of low degree; they were to be chosen freely and indifferently by those at the election, and their names to be inserted in the indenture between the sheriff and electors: and such election being distinctly and openly made, it was to be sealed with his and their seals, and returned into Chancery, annexed to the brief. The election being finished, an indenture was made between the sheriff and the merchants and others of Bristol, residing and dwelling therein, who had a freehold of forty shillings value in the said town; the members being Thomas Young and John Sharpe, junior.

The following is a translation of the original indenture made between John Troyt the sheriff and the electors on this occasion: "Hæc indentura facta, &c." i. e. "This indenture, made at Bristol the last day of January, in the 25th year of the reign of Henry the sixth, after the Conquest, between John Troyt sheriff of Bristol on one part, Richard Foster mayor of the same town, John Burton, John Sharp, Thomas Halleway, Clement Bagot, William Cannings, John Stanley, John Sheppard, &c. &c. burgessees and merchants, dwelling and residing in the town of Bristol, each of whom hath a free tenement of the value of forty shillings a year above reprisals in the same town, on the other part, witnesseth, that by virtue of the brief of our Lord the King, tacked to one part of these indentures, in full court held at Bristol, Monday the 31st day of January last past, collecting the more discreet and more sufficient burgessees of the town of Bristol, Thomas Youn and John Sharp junior of the same town, merchants, dwelling and residing in the said town, were elected to be in the parliament of our Lord the King, to be held at Cambridge on the feast of St. Scolastica, the 10th day of February next ensuing, to answer in parliament as well as knights for the county of Bristol as burgessees for the borough and town aforesaid, according to the form of the charter of our Lord Edward late King of England, progenitor of our Lord the King who now is, granted to the burgessees of the town aforesaid, and by our Lord the King now confirmed, and according to the form of a certain other statute now lately published and enacted in the 8th year of our said Lord the King, likewise contained in the said brief, and also published in the statutes in the parliament of our Lord the King last held: which said Thomas Young and John Sharp have been forewarned to be and appear at the aforesaid parliament, at the day and place aforementioned, with the assent and consent of the said mayor and honest men aforesaid, who had the greater number of all those who can spend forty shillings clear yearly and of the whole commonalty of the town aforesaid, to answer, do, and consent to all and singular those things



which shall happen to be ordained in the said parliament, and all and singular the things which the said brief in itself demands and requires. In witness of this, as well the aforefaid sheriff as the mayor aforefaid and all the honest men aforefaid have fet their seals to these presents: Given at Bristol the day and year afore-mentioned."

They were all returned for years afterwards in the same form, and the right of election the same. Though the right of election since the Restoration has been different and altered, being since that time vested in all the burgesses or freemen at large (except paupers) and in freeholders of forty shillings per annum, yet the wisdom and propriety of choosing none but merchants or gentlemen, residing and dwelling within the city, cannot but be commended as a fit example for our future imitation. In the petition of the corporation for renewal of their charter, 14th Charles 2d. it was first inserted, that the parliament men might be chosen by the mayor and corporation and freeholders of forty shillings per annum only, but the clause was not thought proper by counsel at law, and so omitted.

In the early times of uncorrupt simplicity, when venality was not known nor practised, it appears the parliament men had wages allowed them by their constituents, for their trouble and independent maintenance. And by act of common council, in the time of William Canynges, mayor, 28th Henry 6th. it was ordained, that the parliament men should have two shillings and no more per day, for their expences. And in the year 1520, 11th Henry 8th. it was ordered by act of common council, that the burgesses serving in parliament should have twenty shillings paid them every session. Mayor's Kalendar, p. 139.

In the reigns of Henry 3d. and Edward 1st. no particular sum of expences to be allowed is mentioned in the writs, only in general that "the community by such expences be not burdened too much," *ultra modum hanc gravetur*; but the 15th Edward 2d. particular sums began to be allowed, according to the quality of the representatives. Knights, by order, had three shillings per day each; esquires, though returned for counties, had but twenty pence per day. In the 16th Edward 2d. knights had four shillings per day, esquires returned for counties, cities, or boroughs, two shillings; but 19th Edward 2d. a knight for a shire had four shillings, an esquire for a shire three shillings, and a citizen or burgess two shillings; and in the following reign, four shillings became the settled allowance for a member for a county, and two shillings for a citizen or burgess.

These





These allowances seem to be very mean, but when it is considered that the value of money then was ten or twelve times what it is now, (wheat being then at 3 d. per bushel) it will appear quite otherwise.

How are the times now altered since those days, in which the office of member of parliament was thought a great burden; and persons elected were obliged to find sureties (called manucaptors) for their attendance, and were paid their expences of going to London and attending, which used to be the sums above-mentioned! And no more was allowed, money being so scarce and provisions so cheap in consequence, as appears by the Chronic. Pet. p. 75. in the year 1336, when wheat per bushel was only 3 d. — a fat ox sold for 6s. 8 d. — a fat sheep, 7 d. — six pigeons, 1 d. — a fat goose, 2 d. — a pig, 1 d. This was occasioned, as Knyghton and Fabian observe, by the great scarcity of money, owing to the wars with France and Scotland.

But how greater still is the alteration brought about by time in this respect now, when instead of the members having moderate wages allowed them to defray their expences in attending parliament, they are put to so much trouble and charge in treating their constituents to procure a seat for even a little borough; how enormous often the expence has been, let the contested elections for cities and counties shew, in which besides the rancour and ill will kindled amongst neighbours by a misguided zeal and party spirit, rich and respectable families have been often injured if not ruined, and their patrimonial estates incumbered.

How much these election expences have increased in a few years (and they are still increasing through the kingdom) the following account of disbursements in the several parishes in Bristol by the members on one side, at a contested election in the year 1714, will prove by comparing it with the enormous sums that are now advanced and expended in bringing voters from the most distant parts in coaches, and treating and maintaining them all during any long election; and there has been sad experience of too, too many of late, that have been carried on at the shameful expence of more than ten times the sum disbursed on this occasion. Blush! ye British electors, who boast of your liberty and giving a free vote, uninfluenced by any mean consideration of interest! &c. who yet so evidently do corruptly put the man of your choice who is to serve you with fidelity, and his friends to a most enormous expence!

Account of disbursements in the several parishes &c. in the city of Bristol in the election of Sir William Daines and Joseph Earle, Esq. for members of parliament for the said city in 1714:



	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
St. Austin's, - -	48	12	1	T. Cary's disbursements,	5	10	0
Christ Church, - -	64	15	2	Woman's note at the Coun-			
Castle precincts, - -	72	15	1	cil-house for cheese,	0	5	5
St. John's, - -	35	17	6	Sundry notes for knots,	78	18	10
St. James's, - -	347	12	3	Jn. Trapwell for meat and			
St. Mary Port, - -	20	1	8	drink, - -	2	1	3
St. Michael's, - -	23	13	9	E. Garlick's disbursements,	13	7	0
St. Nicholas, - -	68	10	2	Ald. Shuter's ditto, -	10	0	0
St. Peter's, - -	27	6	0	— Nash ditto, -	29	2	8
St. Phillip's, - -	207	11	11	— Whiting ditto, -	34	7	0
St. Mary Redcliff, - -	176	2	8	Tho. Cary ditto, -	132	8	2
St. Stephen, - -	136	3	0	Edw. Mountjoy Esq; ditto,	21	4	6
St. Thomas, - -	84	4	0	Nath. Careless ditto, -	30	0	0
Temple, - -	189	4	6	H. Swymmer Esq; ditto,	70	0	0
St. Werburgh's, - -	97	2	4	Law charges in defend-			
Bonny's note for printing,	27	0	0	ing against seventy in-			
Woman's note under the	.			formations, -	108	0	0
Guildhall for beer,	47	17	0	II. Watts Esq; disb. -	30	0	0
J. Bate's for bread and				J. Belcher, - -	15	0	0
cheese, - -	2	15	9	Total	£ 2257	9	7

More than twelve times this sum it is said was expended on each side (wasted rather) at a late contested election for the county of Gloucester; and how much for the city of Bristol the contending parties will easily call to mind not without some regret at the shameful profusion and expences in the late ill-judged groundless contests and unreasonable oppositions: *et cui bono?*—

O cives! cives! quæ tanta infania cepit!

A remedy for the evils and enormous expences attending on contested popular elections will, it is much to be lamented, remain a long while among those things, that are devoutly to be wished but with difficulty ever to be attained in this age of venality licentiousness and want of virtue public and private among the infatuated common people of this land. The remedy should be so calculated as to affect the head, to stop this influence of corruption in the lower members. \*

The

\* As each member before he takes his seat in parliament is obliged to swear to his qualification, to a certain real estate he is truly and bona fide possessed of, so it were to be wished, a proper oath might be administered to him at the same time, that he has not given any money, treat, gratuity whatever, place or pension or promise of such to any freeman or freeholder by himself or any agent on his behalf for or towards obtaining his seat in parliament; not unlike the oath against simony



The following is a list of such members from the 23d. of Edward the 1st. 1295, who were returned to the parliament for the borough-town of Bristol, whilst part of Gloucestershire, the return being then made by the sheriffs of that county: But since it has been severed from that county, and made a county within itself, the 47th of Edward the 3d. 1373, the writs of summons have always issued to, and been returned by our own sheriffs. For this end fundry special returns, schedules and indentures relating to the election of such burgeses and knights (so far as any records are extant, either in the Tower of London, the Rolls, Petty-bag, Crown-office or among the archives of the city of Bristol, \*) have been consulted and examined.

A. R.	A. D.	Parliaments held at	
			<i>Regis Edwardi 1.</i>
23	1295	Westminster	John de Taverner, alias Tavern. (‡)
26	1298	York	John de Taverner, J. de Chedde.
28	1300	Lincoln	John de Mahnesbury.
30	1302	London	Ballivi Libertatis nullum mihi dederunt responsum.
33	1305	Westminster	J. de Wellisshot, J. Hafard. (‡)
34	1306	Westminster	Johanes de Taverner, Rober. de Holherst. (‡) A council at Westminster.
35	1307	Carlisle	Geffery Comper, Nich. Coke, (‡)

[King Edward the 1st. died the 7th July, 1307.]

*Regis Edwardi 2.*

2	1309	Westminster	Stephanus de Bellfmonte, Robert Martyn.
4	1311	London	Rich. Colpeks, Johes Fraunceys.
5	1312	London	Johes Fraunceys, senr. Adam Wellisshot.
6	1313	Windfor	Johes de Wellestoten, Johes Methelan.
6	—	Woodstock	Hugo de Langebrugge, Johes de Axebrugge.
7	1314	Westminster	Johes Finreys, Johes Tropin.

Robert

that they have imposed upon the clergy *mutatis mutandis*: and it is hoped, our virtuous House of Commons will one day pass such an act, which would prevent the riots, bloodshed and murders now not uncommon at some popular contested elections, as well as the ruinous expences often incurred on these occasions, to the great distress of individuals and injury of families, who for years after do not retrieve the loss sustained thereby.

\* Those marked thus (‡) were communicated by the great antiquarian Brown Willis, Esq; and those with this mark (\*) are from the archives of Bristol, &c.



A. R.	A. D.	Parliaments held at	
8	1315	Westminster	Robert Wildemarsh, Tho. de Espoter.
12	1319	York	Tho. de Salop, Robert de Lincoln.
12	—	Westminster	Gilbert Pokerell, Richard de Wodehull. (†)
15	1322	York	Williel de Cliffe, Johes Fraunceys.
16	1323	Rippon	Laurentius Pinchard, Tho. de Chiew.
19	1326	Westminster	Johes de Axebrugg, Johes de Fraunceys.
20	1326	Westminster	Ballivi nullum dederunt responsum.
[King Edward the 2d. was dethroned 25th of January 1326-7.]			
<i>Regis Edwardi 3.</i>			
1	1327	Westminster	Edward 2d's. parliament was still sitting at Westminster, assisting in the deposing K. Edward the 2d. which was done accordingly 25th of January.
1	—	Lincoln, September 15	Johes de Axebrugg, Johes de Romeney. [See Rymer's Fœd. tom. iv. p. 301.]
1	—	Westminster Nov. 13	The same persons.
1	—	York	Rich. Paves, Hugo le Hunt.
2	1328	New Sarum	Walterus de Espoter, Johes de Brockworth.
2	—	Northampton	Johes de Axebrugg, Hugo le Hunt. (†)
4	1330	§ Westminster	Hugo le Hunt, Richard le Paves, (*)
4	—	Winton at Eltham	Hugo le Hunt, Johes Fraunceys.
6	1332	Westminster	Johes de Romsey, Johes de Axebrugg.
7	1333	York	Johes Sterry, Johes de Strete.
8	1334	Westminster	Robertus Gyene. (†)
8	—	York	Johes de Ottery, Johes de Strete. (†)
9	1335	Westminster	Robert Gyene, Johes Fraunceys. (†)
9	—	York	Hugo de Langebrugg, Johes de Strete.
10	1336	Northampton	Johes Fraunceys, junr. Tho. Tropin.
10	—	Westminster	Robert de Gyene, Johes Fraunceys. (†)
11	1337	Westminster	Everardus de Fraunceys, Philipus de Torrington.

Gilbertus

§ This year it was enacted, that a parliament should be holden once in every year, or oftener if need be.





A. R.	A. D.	Parliaments held at	
11	1337	Westminster	Johes Covely, Hugo Albrighton. (†)
12	1338	York	Gilbertus Peckerill, Rich. Woodhull. (†)
12	—	Northampton at Walton	Everardus le Franceys, Philipus de Torington.
12	—	Westminster	Everardus le Fraunceys, Johes de Strete. (†)
13	1339	Westminster	Everardus le Fraunceys, Johes de Strete. (†)
14	1340	Westminster	Jacobus Tilley, Tho. Tropyn. (†)
14	—	Westminster	Johes le Hunt, Johes de Wellisshot.
15	1341	Westminster	Rober. Gyenc, Philipus Torington.
17	1343	Westminster	Johes de Axebrugg, Johes Fraunceys.
20	1346	Westminster	Johes Wicomb, Johes Neel.
21	1347	Westminster	Everardus le Fraunceys, Johes de Strete.
22	1348	Westminster	Evarardus le Fraunceys, Johes de Strete.
22	—	Westminster	Everardus le Fraunceys, Tho. de Lodelow.
24	1350	Westminster	Johes Colyngton, Johes Seymour. (†)
26	1352	Westminster	Johes Seymour, (but one elected.)
27	1353	Westminster	Thomas Babbecary, Williel. Coumb.
29	1355	Westminster	Rich. le Spicer, Reginaldus le French.
31	1357	Westminster	Reginaldus le French, Rich. Brampton.
34	1360	Westminster	Tho. Babbecary, Galfridus Beauflour.
34	—	Westminster	Reginaldus le French, Williel. Young.
36	1362	Westminster	Walterus Frampton, Edwardus Blanket.
37	1363	Westminster	Johes Serjeant, Johes Stoke. (†)
38	1364	Westminster	Willielmus Hayl, Williel. Cannings.
39	1365	Westminster	Williel. Sommerwell, Tho. Denband.
42	1368	Westminster	Johes Bathe, (upon a summons of one burgeses.)
42	—	Westminster	Rich. Chamberleyn, Rich. Sydenham.
43	1369	Westminster	Johes Cheddre, Edmundus Blanket.
45	1371	Winchester	Johes Bathe. (A council held there.)
46	1372	Westminster	Walterus Derby, Johes Stoke.
[All these burgeses for Bristol were returned by the sheriff of Gloucester.]			
<i>Returned by the sheriffs of Bristol.</i>			
47	1373	Westminster	Walterus Derby, Tho. Beaupine.
50	1376	Westminster	Elias Spelly, Tho. Beaupine.

[King Edward 3d. died the 21st of June, 1377.]



A. R. A. D. Parliaments held at

*Regis Richardi 2.*

2	1379	Glocester	Tho. Beaupine, Walterus de Frampton.
5	1382	Westminster	Elias Spelly, Johes Stokys.
6	1383	Westminster	Williel. Cannings, Johes Candavell. (†)
7	1384	New Sarum	Williel. Cannings, Williel. Sommerwell.
7	—	Westminster	Johes Cannings, * Williel. Frome.
8	1385	Westminster	Elias Spelly, Walterus Dodyftill.
9	1386	Westminster	Elias Spelly, Tho. Knapp.
15	1392	Westminster	Williel. Frome, Johes Stephanys.
16	1393	Winchester	Tho. Beaupine, Johes Stephanys.
20	1397	Westminster	Williel. Frome, Johes Banbury.

[King Richard 2d. deposed by his parliament  
Sept. 29, 1399.]

*Regis Henrici 4.*

1	1400	Westminster	Tho. Norton, Rich. Pannys.
3	1402	Westminster	Tho. Norton, Johes Boys.
8	1407	Westminster	Johes Droys, Johes Mewton.
12	1411	Westminster	Tho. Norton, David Dudbroke.

[King Henry 4th. died the 20th of March,  
1412-13.]

*Regis Henrici 5.*

1	1413	Westminster met May 15	Tho. Norton, Johes Leicestre.
2	1414	Leicester met April 30	Tho. Young, Johes Spine. (†)
2	—	Westminster	Thomas Blount, Johes Clive.
3	1415	Westminster	Rober. Ruffell, Rober. Colville.
5	1417	Westminster	Tho. Norton, Johes Burton.
8	1420	Westminster	Tho. Norton, Johes Spine.
9	1421	Westminster	Marcus Williams, Rich. Trenode.

[King Henry 5th. died the 31st of August,  
1422.] *Regis*

\* Son of William Cannings.



A. R.	A. D.	Parliaments held at
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*Regis Henrici 6.*

1	1422	Westminster met Nov. 9	John Burton, Rogerus Liveden.
2	1423	Westminster	John Burton, Rogerus Liveden.
3	1424	Westminster	Rich. Trenode, Walterus Power.
4	1425	Westminster	Henricus Gildenay, John Langley. (†)
5	1426	Westminster	John Burton, Henricus Gildenay.
6	1427	Westminster	John Burton, Henricus Gildenay. (†)
7	1428	Westminster	Rich. Trenode, John Sharpe.
9	1431	Westminster	Tho. Fyfhe, Walterus Power. (†)
11	1433	Westminster	Rober. Ruffel, Walterus Power. (†)
13	1435	Westminster	Tho. Fyfhe, Tho. Young. (†)
15	1437	Cambridge	Tho. Young, Tho. Norton. (†)
20	1442	Westminster	Tho. Young, John Sharp.
25	1447	Canterbury	Tho. Young, John Sharp, junr.
27	1449	Westminster	Tho. Young, John Sharp, junr.
28	1450	Westminster	Tho. Young, John Sharp, junr.
29	1451	Westminster	Tho. Young, Williel. Cannings.
31	1453	Reading	John Shipward, merchant, Johes Bary, gent. (†)
33	1455	Westminster	Tho. Young, Williel. Cannings.
38	1460	Coventry	John Shipward, Phillippus Meed.
38	—	Westminster	Tho. Ruffel, John Sharp, junr.
38	—	Westminster	John Shipward, Philippus Meed.

[King Henry 6th was deposed by the following  
King, the 4th of March 1460-61.]

*Regis Edwardi 4.*

6	1466	Westminster	Williel. Spencer, John Bagod,
7	1467	Westminster	Williel. Spencer, John Bagod. (†)
12	1472	Westminster	John Twynyhoe, John Bagod.
17	1477	Westminster	John Hawkins, Edmund Westcot.
22	1482	Westminster met Jan. 20	Edmund Westcot, Williel. Wykam (*)

[King Edward the 4th. died the 9th of April  
1483.]



A. R. A. D. Parliaments held at

*Regis Edwardi 5.*

There was no parliament during this King's reign, which lasted but two months and thirteen days, when he was murdered with his brother Richard Duke of York in the Tower of London.

*Regis Richardi 3.*

1	1484	Westminster Jan. 23.	John Twynyhoe, Robert Strange. (*) The first was recorder of Bristol, 1st Richard 3d.
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*Regis Henrici 7.*

1	1485	Westminster Nov. 7.	John Esterfield, Robert Strange. (*)
3	1487	Westminster Nov. 9.	John Esterfield, Hen. Vaughan. (*)
5	1489 90	Westminster Jan. 13.	Williel. Toker, Johes Foster. (*)
7	1492	Westminster January.	.
11	1496	Westminster Oct. 13.	Hen. Vaughan, Phillippus Ringston. (*)
13	1498	Westminster	Hen. Dale, Tho. Snygg. (*)
21	1504	Westminster	[King Henry the 7th. died the 22d of April 1509.]

*Regis Henrici 8.*

1	1509 10	Westminster Jan. 21.	Rich. Vaughan, Hen. Dale. (*)
3	1511 12	Westminster Jan. 15.	Tho. Smyth, Rich. Hoby. (*)

Rober.





A. R.	A. D.	Parliaments held at	
6	1515	Westminster	
		Jan. 3.	
14	1523	Black Friars, Lond. Ap. 15.	Rober. Thorn, Rich. Hoby. (*)
20	1529	Westminster Nov. 3.	Rich. Abyngdon, John Shipman. (*)
28	1537	Westminster June 8.	Nicho. Thorn, Roger. Coke. (*)
33	1542	Westminster	David Croke, Rober. Ellyot. (†)
			[King Henry the 8th. died the 28th of Jan. 1546-7.]
<i>Regis Edwardi 6.</i>			
1	1547	Westminster	
6	1552	Westminster	John Walshe, David Harris. (†)
			[King Edward the 6th. died July 6th, 1553.]
<i>Reginæ Mariæ.</i>			
1		Westminster	John Walshe, Esq; Recorder, David Harris, Gent. (†)
1		Oxford	John Walshe, Esq; Tho. Lancedon. (†)
<i>Regis et Reginæ Philippi et Mariæ.</i>			
1 & 2		Westminster	John Walshe, Esq. (†)
2 & 3		Westminster	John Walshe, Esq; Recorder, Wm. Chester, Alderman. (†)
4 & 5		Westminster	Williel. Tindal, Robert. Butler. (†)
			[Queen Mary died the 17th of Nov. 1558.]



A. R. A. D. Parliaments held at

*Regina Elizabethæ.*

1	1559	Westminster	John Walshe, Esq; Williel. Carr, Esq. (†)
5	1563	Westminster	John Walshe, Esq; Williel. Carr, Esq. (†)
9	1567		Williel. Carr, Esq; Tho. Chestre, Esq. (*)
13	1571	Westminster	John Popham, Esq; Recorder, Phil. Langley. (*)
14	1572	Westminster	John Popham, Esq; Phillip Langley. (†)
27	1585	Westminster	Tho. Hannam, Esq; Recorder, Rich. Cole. (†)
28	1586	Westminster	Tho. Hannam, Esq; Recorder, Tho. Aldworth, Esq. (†)
31	1589	Westminster	Tho. Hannam, Esq; Recorder, Wm. Salterne, Merchant. (†)
35	1593	Westminster	Tho. Hannam, Esq; Recorder, Richard Cole, Alderman. (†)
39	1597	Westminster	George Snygg, Esq; Recorder, Thomas James, Merchant. (†)
43	1601	Westminster	George Snygg, Esq; Recorder, John Hopkins, Alderman. (†)
			[Queen Elizabeth died the 24th of March, 1602-3.]

*Regis Jacobi.*

1	1603	Westminster	Geo. Snygg, Esq; Tho. James, Esq. (†)
	1605	Westminster	John Whitson, Esq.
12	1614	Westminster	John Whitson, Esq; Tho. James, Esq. (†)
18	1620	Westminster	John Whitson, Esq; John Guy, Alderman. (†)
			met Jan. 20, 1620-1.
21	1623	Westminster	John Barker, Esq; John Guy, Esq. (†)
			[King James the 1st. died the 27th of March 1625.]

*Regis Caroli 1.*

1	1625	Westminster	Nich. Hide, Esq; John Whitson, Esq. (†)
			met June 8.
1	1625	Westminster	John Whitson, Esq; John Doughty, Esq. (†)
			met Feb. 6, 1625-26.



A. R.	A. D.	Parliaments held at	
3	1627	Westminster met March 17.	John Doughty, Esq; John Barker, Merchant. (‡)
15	1640	Westminster met April 13.	J. Glanvill, Esq; Recorder, Hump. Hook, Esq; (‡)
	1640	Westminster met Nov. 3.	Hump. Hook, Esq; Rich. Long, Alderman. (‡)
17	1642	Westminster	Richard Aldworth, Esq; counfellow at law, Luke Hodges, Esq; (‡)
[§ King Charles the 1st. was murdered by his rebellious subjects January 30th 1648-9.]			
King Charles 2d. began Jan. 30.			
6	1654	Westminster	(a) Miles Jackson, Robt. Aldworth, (*)
8	1656	Westminster	(b) Robt. Aldworth, John Dodridge, Recorder, (*) Major General Desborough in the room of Dodridge displaced.
	1659		

*Regis*

§ In the year 1653, on the 20th of April the Rump parliament was turned out by the army ; it had sat twelve years, six months and seventeen days, during which time, viz. on the 30th of January 1648-9, by an act of their own authority they caused his sacred Majesty King Charles the 1st. to be most barbarously murdered, by severing his head from his body before the gates of his own palace, he having reigned 23 years 10 months and 3 days. King Charles the 2d. his son began his reign the 30th of January, on which day the regicides had murdered his father, although the regal authority did not take place until the happy restoration of King Charles the 2d. in the year 1660.

(a) During the state of usurpation in this kingdom were the following proceedings, in what they then called a parliament, viz. on the 12th of December 1653, the Speaker, and most part of the members left the house, and surrendered their power to Oliver Cromwell, who took upon him the style of Protector.—On the 10th of June 1654, the writs bore date by Oliver Cromwell's authority, for calling a new parliament to meet at Westminster by the 3d of September following, the representatives that were chosen for Bristol were Miles Jackson, and Robert Aldworth, (see Mr. Bayes's manuscript, and many others;) this parliament was dissolved by Oliver the 22d of January 1654-5.

(b) On the 3d of July 1656, new writs were issued out to call a parliament at Westminster the 17th of September following ; at Bristol were chosen, the 20th of August, Robert Aldworth, and John Dodridge. But Major General Desborough petitioning the parliament against Dodridge, Cromwell displaced him, and Desborough sat with Aldworth. On the 1th of February 1657-8 Oliver dissolved this parliament ; and the grand usurper's death happened upon the day of his birth, being the 3d of September following. The parliament which met at Westminster the 7th



A. R.	A. D.	Parliaments held at
12	1660	Westminster
13	1661	Westminster
29	1678	Westminster
30	1679	Westminster
31	1680	Oxford
32	1680	Westminster

*Regis Caroli 2.*

## Regular Parliaments.

(c) J. Stephens, Esq; Recorder, J. Knight, senr. Merchant. (†)

(d) Sir Humphrey Hook, and Sir J. Knight, Knts. Tho. Earl, Esq; J. Knight, Esq; (†) — A double return the two first members were continued and sat anno 1670.

Sir Robert Cann, Knt. and Bart. Sir J. Knight, Knt. (†)

Sir Robert Cann, Bart. Sir J. Knight, Knt. (†)

Sir Richard Hart, Knt. Tho. Earl, Esq; (†)

Sir Robt. Cann, Bart. Sir Walter Long, Bart. (\*)

[King Charles the 2d. died the 6th of Feb. 1684-5.]

*Regis*

of January 1658-9, was called Dick's Convention-Parliament, being the first which he called. Richard's party deserting him, he consented to dissolve his parliament April the 2d 1659; after which he had a *quietus est*, for on the 25th of April following the house was shut up, and entrance denied the members. But however, on the 7th of May following, the Rump sat again, but was afterwards turned out of the house by Lambert, the 13th of October following. And the 26th of December 1659, the Rump was re-admitted, and on the 21st of February 1659-60, the secluded members were restored. And the 15th of March following the parliament was dissolved, and another called to be holden at Westminster April the 25th, 1660.

(c) This parliament met at Westminster the 25th of April 1660. And on the 1st of May his Majesty's gracious letters and declaration were read in the house, &c. On the 13th of September following the parliament was adjourned to the 6th of November, having passed an act for disbanding the army, and an act of indemnity, (the regicides excepted;) and on the 29th of November 1660, the parliament was dissolved.

Admiral Pen, a Bristol man, was polled for, but the corporation favoured Stephens.—Pen was returned for Weymouth.

(d) The writs for summoning a parliament in England to convene on May the 8th 1661, were sealed the 9th of March. And on the 8th of May the parliament met at Westminster, and the House of Lords were again restored to their ancient privileges: and the convocation also began. On the 30th of July they were adjourned to the 20th of November. This parliament often met to dispatch business, and was often adjourned or prorogued, until the 25th of January 1678-9, on which day this long parliament was dissolved by proclamation, after they had sat nigh 17 years.





A. R. | A. D. | Parliaments held at

*Regis Jacobi 2.*

1	1685	Westminster met May 19, 1685.	Sir J. Churchill, Knt. recorder, died soon. (*) And Sir Rich. Hart, Knt. was chosen in his room the 10th December. (†) Sir Richard Crump, Knt. (†) [King James the 2d. abdicated the throne February 13, 1688-9.]
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*Regis et Reginae Willielmi et Mariae.*

1	1688 — 89	Westminster	Sir Richard Hart, Sir J. Knight, Knts. (*) — Elected to be sent to the convention, who vo- ted against the Prince and Princess of Orange being made King and Queen.
2	1690	Westminster	Sir Rich. Hart, and Sir John Knight, Knts. (†)

*Regis Willielmi. 3.*

7	1695	Westminster	Sir Tho. Day, Knt. Robt. Yate, Esq; (†)
10	1698	Westminster	Sir Tho. Day, Knt. Robt. Yate, Esq; (†)
12	1700	Westminster	Sir Tho. Day, Knt. Robt. Yate, Esq; (*)
13	1701	Westminster	Sir Wm. Daines, Knt. Robt. Yate, Esq; (†) [King William died the 8th of March 1701-2.]

*Reginae Annae.*

1	1702	Westminster Aug. 20.	Sir Wm. Daines, Knt. Robt. Yate, Esq; (†)
4	1705	Westminster	Sir Wm. Daines, Knt. Robt. Yate, Esq; (†) — This was the first parliament of Great-Britain constituted by the Union, which commenced on May-day 1707, where the last members sat. Sessions the 1st, October 23d 1707, sat on busi- ness, and was dissolved April 15th 1708. The 2d parliament summoned for July 8th 1708.
7	1708	Westminster Nov. 16.	Sir Wm. Daines, Knt. Robt. Yate, Esq; (†)



A. R.	A. D.	Parliaments held at
9	1710	Westminster Nov. 25.
12	1713	Westminster Oct. 1.
1	1714 15	Westminster

*Parliaments since the Union.*

The 3d parliament was summoned for Nov. 25th 1710.

(a) Edw. Colston, Esq; Joseph Earl, Esq; (†)

The 4th parliament was summoned for October 1st, 1713.

(b) Tho. Edwards, junr. Esq; Jos. Earl, Esq; (†)

[Queen Ann died the 1st of August 1714.]

*Regis Georgii 1.*

The 5th parliament was summoned for March 17, 1714-15.

(c) Sir Wm. Daines, Knt. Jos. Earl, Esq; (\*)

The 6th parliament was summoned for May 10th 1722.

*Joseph*

(a) The 26th of September 1710, a proclamation was published for calling a new parliament. The elections were carried on with great warmth every where. The election began at Bristol, where the citizens chose their worthy benefactor Edward Colston, Esq; and Joseph Earl, Esq. The sessions began November 25, 1710; during which elections were regulated, every member for a borough was to have 300l. per ann. freehold or copyhold; and every knight of a shire 600l. per annum: the House did not break up the sessions till the 12th of June 1711, after several prorogations they met the 14th of January 1711-12, this session the parliament settled the building fifty new churches in London. The sessions which met the 6th of June 1712, concluded peace with France: on the 21st of June the house was adjourned to the 8th of July, from which time by several adjournments and prorogations a proclamation was published the 5th of August 1713 for dissolving the parliament and for calling a new one.

(b) The writs were issued out the 17th of August 1713. The election for Bristol began Monday the 7th of September 1713; the candidates were Tho. Edwards and Joseph Earl, Esq; and Sir William Daines, Knt. the election was carried on with much heat on both sides, in so much that the poll was closed the Thursday following, and the two first were returned duly elected: and the parliament met the 1st of October 1713, on the 18th by proclamation they were prorogued to the 15th of February 1713-14 when they dispatched business, and the 2d of March the Queen made her speech, on the 6th of March they adjourned to the 31st inst. 1714, on the 9th of July following the Queen made her last speech to them and prorogued them to the 10th of August 1714. But Sunday morning a little after 7 of the clock being the 1st of August, Queen Ann died in the year 1714.

(c) The candidates at this election were Sir William Daines, Knt. Joseph Earl, Esq; Thomas Edwards and Phillip Freke, Esqs; there appeared at the close of the poll a majority for the two



A. R.	A. D.	Parliaments held at	
7	1721	Westminster May 10.	(d) Joseph Earl, Esq; Sir Abra. Elton, Bart. (*)  The 7th parliament was summoned for Nov. 28th, 1727.
1	1727	Westminster Nov. 28.	<i>Regis Georgii 2.</i>  (e) John Scroope, Esq; Recorder, Abra. Elton, jun. Esq. (*)  N. B. King George the 1st. died the 11th of June 1727.  The 8th parliament was summoned for June 13th, 1734.

W

(a) Sir

latter, who were carried about the cross according to custom, in the mean time the sheriffs returned the two former,—Freke and Edwards petition, it was renewed the 2d and 3d sessions.—This was the 1st septennial parliament of King George the 1st. This parliament sat eight sessions; and was dissolved March the 10th 1721-22.

(d) The candidates were Joseph Earl, Esq; Sir Abraham Elton, Bart. and William Hart, senr. Esq; the two first were returned. This was the second septennial parliament which sat six sessions of King George the 1st, was dissolved August the 5th 1727. William Hart, Esq; petitioned.

(e) This was the third septennial parliament since the death of Queen Anne, and the 1st of George the 2d. Mr. Scroope was a joint-secretary of the treasury. It sat seven sessions, was dissolved April 18, 1734.

(a) In the first septennial parliament of King George the 2d 1727, the representatives for Bristol were John Scroope, Esq; recorder and secretary to the treasury, and Abraham Elton, junr. Esq; Mr. Scroope in the year 1732 when the excise scheme on tobacco was brought into the house, was found to be a great promoter of and a voter for that bill, also he voted against the repeal of the septennial act in the year 1734, all which gave a general disgust to the principal electors of Bristol, who were determined to oppose his election in the year 1734. On Wednesday the 15th of May it began, the candidates were Sir Abraham Elton, Bart. Thomas Coster and John Scroope, Esqs. the poll continued nine days to the 24th of May, on closing of which when cast up the numbers stood, for Sir Abraham Elton, Bart. 2423, for Mr. Coster, 2071, for Mr. Scroope, 1866, majority for Mr. Coster 205, whereupon the sheriffs returned the two former. Notwithstanding a petition from the mayor, &c. was brought into parliament for an undue election against Mr. Coster in favour of Mr. Scroope who in the end was obliged to withdraw the petition, not being able to prove one allegation therein. These members voted against the convocation in the second septennial parliament, which sat seven sessions, of which Mr. Southwell sat two, it was dissolved April 28, 1741.



A. R.	A. D.	Parliaments held at	
7	1734	Westminster	(a) Sir Ab. Elton, Bart. Tho. Coffer, Esq. (b) died.
12	1739		Edw. Southwell, Esq. (b)
			The 9th parliament was summoned for June 25th, 1741.
13	1741	Westminster	(c) Sir Ab. Elton, Bart. Edw. Southwell, Esq. (*)
14	1742		(d) Robert Hoblyn, Esq.
			The 10th parliament was summoned for Aug. 13th, 1747.
20	1747	Westminster	(e) Edw. Southwell, Esq; Rob. Hoblyn, Esq. (*)
27	1751	Westminster	Robert Nugent, and Rich. Beckford, Esqrs.
29	1756	Westminster	(f) Jarrit Smyth, Esq; in the room of Richard Beckford, deceased.
<i>Regis Georgii 3.</i>			
1	1760	Westminster	Sir Jarrit Smyth, Bart. Robert Nugent, Esq.

Robert

(b) Thomas Coffer, Esq; on Sunday the 30th of September 1739, died at his house in the College Green.

(b) To fill up his vacancy a new writ was ordered for another election which began Wednesday the 28th of November 1739, the candidates were Edward Southwell, principal secretary of state for Ireland, and Henry Combe, Esq; Mr. Southwell's interest was supported with Mr. Coffer's friends, and Mr. Combe's by the corporation, &c. The poll was kept open for fourteen days at closing of which the numbers stood thus, for Mr. Southwell 2651, for Mr. Combe 2203, majority 448. N. B. There remained upwards of 200 neutral votes.

(c) There was no opposition this election. This was the third septennial parliament of King George the 2d. which sat six sessions and was then dissolved June 18. 1747.

(d) Sir Abraham Elton, Bart dying the 19th of October 1742, a new election to fill his vacancy began Wednesday the 24th of November 1742, date of the writ was November 16, 1742, when Robert Hoblyn, Esq; son-in-law to the late Thomas Coffer, Esq; was chosen without opposition.

(e) Writs being issued out for a general election this year, it began at Bristol Wednesday the 1st of July 1747, Mr. Samuel Dicker declared as one of the candidates, but before the poll was opened he declined and left the town, therefore there was no opposition, this being the fourth septennial parliament in the reign of King George the 2d. which sat seven sessions: in the sixth session an act passed for altering the stile of the year to the first of January, and also a bill for naturalization of the Jews.

(f) The election came on the 2d of March 1756, Thomas Spencer, Esq; and Jarrit Smyth, Esq; candidates; poll closed the 17th, J. Smyth declared duly elected and returned the 18th of March, but a petition was presented against the return.





A. R.	A. D.	Parliaments held at	
6	1766	Westminster	Robert Nugent, Esq; vacated his seat by accepting the office of First Lord of Trade, and was re-chosen Dec. 16 this year, without opposition; he was also created Lord Viscount Clare of the kingdom of Ireland.
7	1768	Westminster	Lord Clare, Matthew Brickdale, Esq. Lord Clare vacated his seat the 27th June, on being chosen Vice-Treasurer of Ireland, and was re-chosen without opposition.
14	1774	Westminster	Henry Cruger, Edmund Burke, Esqrs.
20	1780	Westminster	Matthew Brickdale, Esq; Sir Henry Lippincot.— The latter dying, a new writ was sent down for electing another in his room; which occasioned as great a contest here as was ever known, on G. Daubeney, Esq; declaring himself; who was opposed by H. Cruger, Esq; formerly the popular member; but G. Daubeney, Esq; was returned. Matthew Brickdale, and Geo. Daubeney, Esqrs.
24	1784	Westminster	Matthew Brickdale, Esq; Henry Cruger, Esq.— The latter was chosen against Mr. Daubeney the other candidate, though Mr. Cruger was then abroad in America, and he is there a resident since the year 1785.



## C H A P. VI.

*On the TRADE of BRISTOL, FOREIGN and DOMESTIC.*

BY the good government of the city, by the knowledge, diligence and integrity of its merchants, the trade foreign and domestic has from time immemorial been great and on the increase; as have been the number of ships belonging to the merchants of this port. It was a place very early addicted to trade, as William of Malmſbury, in the year 1139, before quoted, (vid. p. 57,) observes of it: it is thus characteriſed by all writers. Georgius Braunius in *Theatrum Urbium*, lib. 3. indice, calls Briſtol “*famofiffimum Angliæ Emporium, &c.* The moſt famous place of commerce in England next to London, frequented by merchants of many nations, well provided with rivers for bringing in of ſhips, the manner of its ſituation with the high riſe of the tides performing this; the tide not ſpreading here abroad, but ſwelling up \* 60 feet in height:” and in the 4th book, “the city,” ſays he, “is well built, full of inhabitants, and merchants of divers countries; they ſail twice a year to Newfoundland a fiſhing.”

Mercator in his Atlas placing it in Somerſetſhire, as ſome have done in Glouceſterſhire, though truly belonging to neither, being a city and county of itſelf, deſcribes it thus, — “*Urbs præcipua Briſtollia pulcherrimis Ædiſiciis, gemino fluvio & muro, portu, exterorum commerciis, Incolarum frequentia illustratur.*” — Cluverius in his geography, ſays, “*Briſtollium vulgo Briſlow Hiſpanicarum mercium nobile Emporium, ut Southampton Gallicarum.*” — It is recorded in Ricaut’s kalendar, to have been very early famous for its trade to Andaluſia. And in the year 1466, the Mary, a goodly ſhip (probably one of Mr. Canynges’s) whoſe cargo was valued at above 12,000 marks, was taken at the Land’s-End by Vice Admiral Slomp of France. In a manuſcript deed “of the appropriation of the church of Wotton to the monaſtery of St. Auguſtin, Briſtol,” dated 1131, this city is thus characteriſed, “*Briſtollium portus publicus & municipium famoſum pro receptione hominum in multitudine*”

\* The tide riſes ſo high at Chepſtow, but at Briſtol about 25 or 30 feet only; above 32 at ōwnham.



dicé copiosâ de diversis mundi partibus illuc undique confluentium." By the charter of King John, we may learn somewhat of the customs and commerce of the place in that early period; more so by that of Edw. 3. in which time it was so considerable, that it was then entitled to the reputation of being the second city in the kingdom for trade and populoufness; and had so much weight as to obtain a charter for constituting it a county within itself, and for ascertaining the pomerium or bounds of the city. This city fell early into the Newfoundland cod-fishing, *sqys De Wit*, (*Interest of Holland*,) 1669.

In Rymer's *Fœdera*, v. 1. fol. 134, we find that "several of this ever-industrious city had, in the year 1339, set up looms for weaving woollen cloths, in conformity to an act of parliament, that no English wool should be exported out of this kingdom, but be made into cloth within the realm of England, &c." It was at this time great encouragement was given to the cloth manufacture, which the King seems to have removed out of Flanders, (which was the grand mart or staple of wool then,) and settled it in several towns in this kingdom,\* especially at Bristol, which set the example followed after by the neighbouring counties: before this the Flemings used to buy the English wool and manufacture it themselves, but from this act may be derived the source of this staple manufacture of the kingdom. — One Mr. Blanket, then sheriff of Bristol, and many other inhabitants engaged largely in it, set up looms in their own houses, and carried it soon to great perfection; it produced more good to the state than ever was foreseen by the legislature of that time, who formed and projected that useful act of parliament. This cloth trade was carried on in a flourishing manner for a long series of years; especially in the parishes of Temple and St. Thomas, many manufactures at different times were encouraged in Bristol.

It was full of clothiers, weavers and tuckers all Hen. 8th's reign; and in 1610 the magistrates gave great encouragement by lending money to set up the Colchester bays-manufacture; and at the Smiths'-Hall were all beggars and poor people set to work at spinning and stocking-making, under the inspection of the parish officers; which shews how attentive they were to promote industry among the inhabitants. — The trading companies of the city were put under  
proper

\* *Let. Collect.* v. 2. p. 689. "In 29 Edw. 3. was the staple of wools revoked out of Flanders, and set at divers places in England, at Westminster, Canterbury, Chichester and Brilow, Lyncolne and Hulle." As early as the 9th Edw. 2. 1316, there was a duty or custom paid the King for every sack of wool carried out of the port of Bristol half a mark; and for every 300 sheep skins half a mark, and for every last of hides one mark; which the King complained the mayor and bailiff had withheld from him, or his assign, Martin Homecastle, the collector and receiver. *Rot.* 167. 2.



proper regulations. — In the days of Edward 4. this city was famous for the woollen manufacture, as appears by the statute 17 Edw. 4. c. 3. whereby this city, and, together with London, was exempted from sending their cloths, kerseys, &c. with a head, according to stat. 4. of the same king, when all other places were obliged by it, and long before, viz. statute the 12th Rich. 2. 1. 14. it is to be noted, that Bristol had excused itself from pursuing the statute of the 47th Edw. 3. c. 1. relating the measure and aulnage of draps, to which by stat. Rich. 2. they were particularly limited.

The cloth manufacture indeed, once a staple here, (for the government and regulation of which the mayor had the name of Mayor of the Staple of Bristol, and held a court called the Staple-Court,) has now much declined, being removed to other places, and to the North of England, where labour is cheaper: and though immense fortunes were formerly gained by it here, the parts of the city where it was principally carried on, have greatly declined with it, and left the roomy houses in Temple-street, where still remains the Weavers'-Hall and Tuckers'-Hall, to be inhabited by labourers of another kind. — In Edw. 4th's time they complained of the decay of the trade owing to the wool being exported into foreign parts; also on account of the removing of the staple from Bayonne, where was a great sale of Bristol drapery; and the Thoulouse wool being brought another way into other parts of England.

In the year 1459, 37 Hen. 6. Mr. Robert Strange, a great merchant of Bristol, (afterwards founder of St. John's almshouse,) had a goodly ship spoiled by the Genoese in the Mediterranean; this ship had a cargo of spices and other valuable merchandize, which the Genoese, who could not brook the success of our merchants, seized; this wrong when King Henry understood, he made reprisal on the effects of the Genoese merchants in London, whom he also arrested and imprisoned until they gave good security to make good the loss, which amounted to 9000 marks. — The Bristol kalendar calls these merchants strangers, Lombard Janneys, by whom are understood the Genoese, who followed usury and other methods of gain, which the Lombards at this time did, who were the first bankers in London; whence Lombard-street in London, where the bankers reside, took its name. Kal. p. 122. 6.

One Thomas Strange, probably the son of the above Robert, had twelve ships at one time, says Wm. of Worcester, p. 224, in 1480. — The Brass Battery began here about 1704: one Sir Simon Clark was the first inventor of making copper: Mr. Colter and Mr. Wayne acted under him as assayers, who afterwards established it here under Sir Abraham Elton. — The said Sir Simon invented white glass, and casting iron in loam.





The manufactory of zinc out of calamine stone and black-jack, was established at Bristol about the year 1743, when Mr. Champion obtained a patent for making it. About 200 tons of zinc were annually made at his copper-works, where the manufactory was set up first; and afterwards zinc began to be made at Hanham, near Bristol, by Mr. James Emerson, who had been many years manager of that branch under Mr. Champion, and his successor in the business. — This operation of procuring zinc from calamine was held at first a great secret, and though it be now better known, it is but lately that there were any works of that kind established in any other part of either England or Europe, except those last-mentioned. In a circular kind of oven, like a glass-house furnace, there are placed pots of about four feet each in height, much resembling oil jars; into the bottom of each is inserted an iron tube, which passes through the floor of the furnace into a vessel of water. The pots are filled with a mixture of calamine, or black-jack and charcoal, and the mouth of each is then close stopped with clay. The fire being properly applied, the metallic vapour of the calamine issues through the iron tube, there being no other place through which it can escape, and the air being excluded it does not take fire, but is condensed in small particles in the water, and being remelted is formed into ingots and sent to Birmingham under the name of zinc or spelter.

Cambden, Busching in his *Polit. Commercial Geography of Europe in High Dutch*, 1762, and Anderson, all agree in giving Bristol the name of “a renowned commercial city.” “A considerable part of it,” says Busching, “lies on the South side of the river Avon, and a still larger part on the North side; having a communication by three stone bridges, also a draw-bridge for letting ships into the Key, or little river stiled From. It is by far the largest city in Britain next after London, containing above thirteen thousand houses, and above one hundred thousand inhabitants, both which are constantly increasing. It is said by some to use two thousand maritime vessels, coasters as well as ships, employed in foreign voyages; and it has many important manufactories. Its glass bottle, drinking glass, and plate glass manufacture alone occupying fifteen large houses. Its brass pan and brass wire manufactures are also very considerable. It has a most extensive quay, with dock-yards, &c. for ship-building, sundry good hospitals, and many almshouses and other charitable foundations; inso-much, that this city for its prudent regulations is perhaps outdone by none, and for its vast commerce, wealth and shipping by very few trading cities in Europe.” Dr. Campbel in his *Political Survey of Great Britain*, v. 1. p. 147. gives the following just account of the trade of Bristol, “That great mart,  
from



from which the conjunction of the waters of the Severn, Wye, &c. receives the name of the Bristol Channel, is as conveniently situated as can well be imagined, at the conflux of two beautiful rivers, the Avon and the From, having bridges over both; the latter falls into the former a little below the city, and their joint streams into the Severn at about four miles distance. On the North side of the town runs the Quay along the river From, to which ships even of great burden come up; though for the conveniency of commerce many remain in Hungerford, and others at Kingford, which is still lower. If we consider domestic trade, or inland navigation, Bristol is without a rival, for by the Avon she draws to herself commodities from Warwickshire; by the help of the Teem, she receives those of Herefordshire and Shropshire; the Wye brings her also some part of the tribute of the former of those countries, and of Radnorshire; and if there be any thing yet left in Herefordshire and Shropshire, the Lugg drains them both: Monmouthshire and the adjacent parts of Wales send their supplies by the Uske; and a great part of Somersetshire communicates both goods and manufactures by the Ivel, the Parrot and Tone; and Cornwall sends hither its tin and copper for the pewter and brass wire and copper company manufactories. Not satisfied with all this, the Bristol traders deal largely by land, and often interfere with those of Hull in the North, and London in the South.—As to foreign commerce, if we view it in gross, Bristol is next to London; but if the value of that commerce be compared with the size of the respective cities, Bristol has the start; and except in a very few branches, to the participation of which of late she begins to put in her claim in point of intercourse with all parts of the world, her correspondence is as extensive.”

Such are the accounts of it by a foreigner, and by a Briton, and that they have not much exaggerated the description, will appear in the sequel, by considering its early attachment to navigation, and its progress in trade. It was grown so opulent by its commerce in the year 1377, that the mayor and commonalty lend the King, Rich. 2d. 500 marks, which is the first instance in the fædera of a lay community's lending money to the crown, except London; and in the year 1379, the “*probi homines de Bristow*,” lend 100 marks to him, when Gloucester lent only 40, and the greatest 100, which was Cambridge. *Fæd. v. 7. p. 210.* And in 1386, when the kingdom was threatened with a French invasion, they lend 200*l.* *Fæd. T. 7. 543.* as much again as York or any city except London.—Thus the city of Bristol leads the van in all the loans.



In Sir Robert Cotton's Abridgement of the Records, p. 623. Henry 6. directs the fees of liveries of his justices to be paid yearly out of the customs of the ports of London, Bristol and Hull; whence may be inferred those ports, especially the two first, carried on the greatest foreign commerce. In the roll of Edw. 3d's fleet, at the siege of Calais, 1347, in the Cotton Library, and Hackluit's Collect. of Voyages, part 1. p. 118. copied from the King's wardrobe, we find the following proportion between the number of ships furnished by Bristol and the other ports.

		<i>Ships.</i>	<i>Mariners.</i>
Weymouth	-	20	264
		15	263 according to Hackluit.
Lime	- -	4	62
Pool	- -	4	94
Wareham	-	3	59
Bristol	- -	22	608
London	- -	25	662
Seton	- -	2	25

Here we see how nigh the number of Bristol ships and mariners approaches to that of London, and how much they exceed every other port besides. By statute 4 of Hen. 4. it was ordained that all mariners of ships and other vessels laden with goods and merchandise, entering the realm, or passing out of the same, shall be charged and discharged in some great port, and not in any creek or small river, upon pain of forfeiture of the goods; and King Henry 5. by proclamation dated 26 Oct. anno regni 16. commanded all officers to see this act put strictly in execution. — These acts made greatly for the port of Bristol, and much improved its commerce; and we find soon afterwards the magistrates, aware of this advantage and jealous of their liberties and traffic, complaining of some breaches of this law to the injury of the King's customs at Bristol, by vessels unloading their cargoes at ports and creeks in the Bristol Channel, and at Chepstow and other places in Wales. — In the letters patent 17 Hen. 7. Plymouth, Dartmouth, Sandwich, and others are styled “*minores portus quam Bristol.*”

In 1442, (Rot. Parl. 20 Hen. 6.) when a naval force was deemed necessary, the Commons point out where ships were to be had, “at Bristol, the Nicholas of the Tower, and Katherine of Boston.”

In 1449, Wm. Canynges is distinguished as a very great merchant here. — In Rymer's f. 11. p. 226. we find two recommendatory letters from Hen. 6. 1449, one to the Master General of Prussia, the other to the Magistrates of



Dantzick, both in behalf of two of Canynges factors residing in Prussia, requesting all favour and countenance to the said two factors of Canynges, whom the King calls "his beloved eminent merchant of Bristol."

In 1450 we find by a treaty with Christian King of Denmark (Feod. T. ii. p. 264.) three places prohibited us from trading to, Iceland, Halgeland and Finmark; but the above treaty and an English act of parliament dispensed with in favour of Canynges, (p. 277. feod. v. 11.) the Danish King allowing Canynges in consideration of the great debt due to Canynges from his subjects of Iceland and Finmark to lade certain English ships with merchandize for those prohibited places, and there to lade fish and other goods in return: wherefore during his mayoralty of Bristol, because Canynges had done good service unto the King he allowed the same to be done for two years to come on two ships, &c.

It is clear that William Canynges and other merchants about this time had each several ships employed in foreign trade. William of Worcester says p. 99, of Canynges "In navibus &c." i. e. In ships he employed 800 men for eight years, and of his ships he had le Mary Canynges of 400 tons (doliatis) le Mary Redcliff of the burden of 500 tons, le Mary and John of the burden of 900 tons, which cost him in the whole 4000 marks, le Galyott of 50 tons, le Catherin of 140 tons, le Mary Batt 220 tons, le Margaret of Tylny of 200 tons, le Lytle Nicholas of 140 tons, le Katheryn of Boston 220 tons, le—— a ship lost in Iselond about 160 tons burden. Also beside this King Edward the 4th. had of the said William three thousand mares for making his peace." And in p. 224, he names "ships belonging to Bristol in the year of Christ, 1480:"

"The Mary Grace 300 tons, le—— of 360 tons, the George 200 tons, Kateryn 180 tons, Mary Bryd 100 tons, Christofer 90 tons, Mary Sherman 54 tons, Leonard 50 tons, the Mary of Bristow, —— le George, —— the John 511 tons, a ship that is just fitted for sea, John Godeman hath of ships, —— Thomas Straunge about 12."

Let not the merchants of our days ridicule and despise the shipping of their ancestors, which is too common, as we can produce so respectable a list belonging then to a few. Among these ships of Canynges was one of 900 tons, another of 500, &c, although these great ships had English names, it has been not unjustly doubted, whether we had any at that time of our own building in England so large; but as Anderfon well observes, Canynges might have either purchased them or taken them from the Hanseaticks with whom he traded, or from the Venetians, Genoese, Luccese, Pisans, all of whom had ships of even larger burden at that time,





How intent they were in Bristol upon promoting navigation, appears from the letters patent of King Henry 7th. A. R. 13, \* 1495, granted to John Cabot, a Venetian or Genoese, then residing as a merchant in Bristol, and to his three sons, Lewis, Sebastian † and Sanctius, for the discovery of new and unknown lands.

The following are the letters patent, “Henricus Dei Gratia” &c. Thus in English — Henry by the grace of God &c. Be it known to all, that we have given and granted and by these presents do give and grant to our well beloved John Cabot citizen of Venice, to Lewis Sebastian and Sanctius, sons of the said John and to their heirs and deputies full and free authority, leave and power to sail to all parts countries and seas of the east, of the west and of the north under our banners and ensigns, with five ships of what burthen or quality soever they be, and as many mariners and men as they will take with them in the said ships, upon their own proper costs and charges, to seek out discover and find whatsoever isles, countries, regions or provinces of the Heathen and Infidels whatsoever they be and in what part soever of the world, which before this time have been unknown to all Christians: we have granted to them and every of them and their deputies, and have given them our licence to set up our banners and ensigns in every village, town, castle, isle, or main-land of them newly found; and that the said John and his sons and their heirs may subdue occupy and possess all such towns, cities, &c. by them found which they can subdue occupy and possess as our vassals and lieutenants, getting to us the rule title and jurisdiction of the same villages, towns, &c. yet so that the said John and his sons and their heirs of all the fruits, profits and commodities growing from such navigation, shall be held and bound to pay to us in wares or money the fifth part of the capital gain so gotten for every their voyage as OFTEN AS THEY SHALL ARRIVE AT OUR PORT OF BRISTOL, (AT WHICH PORT THEY SHALL BE OBLIGED ONLY TO ARRIVE,) deducting all manner of necessary costs and charges by them made: we giving and granting unto them and their heirs and deputies, that they shall be free from all payment of customs on all such merchandise they shall bring with them from the places so newly found. And moreover we have given and granted to them and their heirs and deputies, that all the firm land, islands, villages, towns, &c. they shall chance to find, may not with-

X 2

out

\* Harl. Voyages, vol. 2, p. 5, 6.

† Parmenius Ludæus has given Cabot the following verses on his discovery of North America:

Hanc tibi jampridem primi invenire Britann:  
Tum cum magnanimus nostra in regione Calotus  
Proximus a magno ostendat fœda Vela Columbus.



out licence of the said John Cabot and his sons be frequented and visited, under pain of losing their ships and all the goods of them, who shall presume to sail to the places so found: willing and commanding strictly all and singular our subjects as well on land as on sea, to give good assistance to the said John and his sons and deputies, and that as well in arming and furnishing their ships and vessels, as in provision of food and buying victuals for their money, and all other things by them to be provided necessary for the said navigation they do give them all their favours and assistance. Witness myself at Westminster, 5th March in 11th year of our reign."

In the thirteenth year of the same reign there is a record of the rolls concerning the voyage of John Cabot and his sons, — thus, "Rex tertio die Feb. anno 13 regni, licentiam dedit &c." The King on the 3d day of Feb. in the 13th year of his reign gave licence to John Cabot to take six ships of England in any haven or havens of the realm, of England of the burden of 200 tons or under with all necessary furniture, and also to take into the said ships all such masters, mariners and subjects of the King as will willingly go with him \* &c.

In consequence of this the voyage was undertaken, and in the year 1497 John Cabot and his son Sebastian (with the English fleet set out from Bristol) discovered the 24th June, 5 ante merid. that land, which none had before. This land he called *primo vista* or first seen, because it was that of which they had a first sight from sea; that land which lieth out before the island, he called St. John's upon this occasion, because discovered on St. John's day.

In the year 1497, 24th June on St. John's day, as it is in a manuscript in my possession, "was Newfoundland found by Bristol men in a ship called the Matthew." Sebastian Cabot discovered in his first voyage Newfoundland, the island of St. John and the continent of America, which he sailed by in his return home quite to Florida, where his provisions failing, he then returned to England from thence; and finding great tumults among the people and preparation for wars with Scotland, there was then no more consideration had of this voyage: whereupon he went to Spain, where the King and Queen being advertised of what he had done, entertained him at their charges, and furnished out ships for the discovery of the coast of Brasil and the river of Plate, which he effected and was after constituted pilot major to Spain; and thus England lost the opportunity of farther discoveries by this great genius in the art of navigation and cosmography. In the 14th year of Henry 7th. Fabian says "were brought home and presented to the King three men taken in Newfoundland, cloathed in beasts skins, eating raw flesh; they spake such

speech.

\* There is a good account of this voyage in Lord Verulam's Life of Henry 7th, to which I refer,



speech as no man could understand, and in their demeanour were like to bruit beasts, whom the King kept a time after; afterwards I saw two appalled like Englishmen at Westminster pallace."

In Fabian's Chronicle,\* and in Stowe continued by E. Howes, the voyage is related nearly alike; in the latter thus: "This year (1498) one Sebastian Cabota, a Genoese's son, (others say a Venetian,) born at Bristol, professing himself to be expert in knowledge of the circuit of the world and islands thereof, as by his charts and other reasonable demonstrations he shewed, caused the King to man and victual a ship at Bristol, to search for an island which he knew to be replenished with rich commodities: in the ship divers merchants of London adventured small stocks, and in companie with this ship, sayled also out of Bristol three or foure small shippes freighted with slight and other grosse wares, as coarse cloth, caps, laces, points, and such other."

Sir H. Gilbert, in his book intituled, A Discovery of a New Passage to Cataia, writeth thus: "Sebastian Cabota, by his personal experience and travell, hath set forth and described this passage in his charts, which are yet to be seen in the Queen's Majesties privy gallery at Whitehall, who was sent to make this discoverie by King Hen. 7. and entered the fret, affirmed that he sailed very far westward, with a quarter of North, on the North side of Terra Labrador, the 11 June, until he came to the Septentrional, latitude of  $67\frac{3}{4}$  degrees, and finding the seas still open, said, that he might and would have gone to Cataia, if the enmity of the matter and mariners had not been." — However he might have been mistaken in that, it shews what a genius he had for naval adventures. — Peter Martyr of Angleria, in his third Decade, † chap. 6. thus accurately describes this voyage: "These North seas have been searched by one Sebastian Cabot, a Venetian born, whomme yet but in manner an ‡ infant, his parents carried with them into England, having occasion to resort thither for trade, as is the manner of the Venetians to leave noe parte of the worlde unsearched to obtayne rycheffe; he therefore furnished two shippes in England at his own charges: and first with three hundred menne directed his course so farre towarde the North pole, that even at the monthe of July he founde monstrous heapes of ice swimming on the sea, and in manner continual day light: yet sawe he the lande in that tracte free from ice, moulten by the heat of

\* Thomas Languet in Chron. says, "Sebastian Cabot, son of a Genoese, born in Brislowe professing knowledge in the circuit of the earth, was sente from Brillowe to discover strange countieys, and he fyrste founde out Newfoundland in 1498.

† Translated out of Spanish by Lok, Gent. 1612.

‡ So young that it gave room to say he was born in Bridol, the place in England they settled at, — nor is it clear he was not born there: but a Bristol man he was; being tied up there from infancy confessedly.



of the funne. Thus meeting such heapes of ice before him, he was enforced to turn his sayles and follow the West, so coastinge sylle by the shiore, that he was thereby brought so far into the Southe by reason of the lande bending so much southwarde, that it was there almost equal in latitude with the sea called "Fretum Herculeum," having the North pole cleivate in manner in the same degree. He sayld likewise in this track so farre towards the West that he had the island of Cuba on his left hande, in manner in the same degree of longitude. As he travayled by the coasts of this great land, (which he named Baccalaos,) he sayth that hee founde the like course of waters towards the West, but the same to run more softly and gently, than the swift waters which the Spanyards founde in their navigations southwards. Sebastian Cabot himself called these landes Baccalaos, from certaine bygge fishes called by the inhabitants Baccalaos, so many that they sometimes flaid their shippes. He founde also the people of these regions covered with beaust skins, yet not without the use of reason. He also sayth, there are plenty of beares, which catch fysh with their clawes and draw them to land and eate them: he declareth also that he saw greate plenty of laton (a kind of metal) among the inhabitants. Cabot is my friend, (adds Peter Martyr,) whom I use familiarly and delight to have him sometimes keep me company in my own house; for hee being called out of England \* by the commandment of the Catholike King of Castile, after the death of King Henry of England the 7th of that name, he was made one of our counsayle and assistants touchynge the assayres of the newe Indies, lookyng daylie for shippes to be fitted out by him to discover this hidde secreet of nature. This voyage is appoynted to be begunne in March in the yeere next following, beeing the yeere of Christe 1516."

This is a most curious account indeed of our townsmen Cabot's voyage, and being given by his friend and intimate associate who might have it from Cabot's own mouth, it is most likely to be true and genuine. In his seventh Decade, printed a few years possibly afterwards, P. Martyr again mentions "the Baccalaos, as being first discovered 26 years since from England by Cabotus." There are in Mr. Hacklitt, to whom I refer, several other testimonies of Sebastian Cabot's discoveries of Newfoundland and North America, to which the merchants of Bristol, who formerly according to Georg. Brunius, before quoted, used to go once a year to Newfoundland a fishing, now drive so considerable a trade.

In the second year of Edward 6. 1549, the King granted to Sebastian Cabot a certain annuity or yearly revenue of 166l. 12s. 4d. sterling, to receive and enjoy

\* i. e. From Bristol where he dwelt, and was bred up — he is called in manuscript *Jenes me*, Genevose's son, born in Bristol."





enjoy the same to the said Sebastian Cabot during his natural life, out of the treasury of the Exchequer at Westminster, at the hand of his treasurers and paymasters there without account or fee, constituting him grand pilot of England.

In the life of Columbus by his son, cap. 4. it is related, that a memorandum of his father contains the following particular, which shows into how far distant and supposed uninhabitable countries the merchants of Bristol had penetrated: "In February 1467, I sailed myself an hundred leagues beyond Thule, Iceland, whose northern point is 73 degrees distant from the equinoctial, and not 63 as some will have it, nor does it lie upon the line where Ptolomy's West begins, but much more to the westward; and to this island, which is as big as England, the English trade, especially from Bristol. (Churchill's Voyages, vol. 2. p. 485. 3d edit.)

In William Botoner, p. 267, there is an account of an early voyage made by Bristol men "in two ships of 80 tons, of Jay, junr. a merchant, who began their voyage 15 July 1480, at the port of Bristol in Kyngroad, for the island of Brasyle, taking their course from the West part of Ireland, plowing the seas through, and Thlyde is master of the ship, the most skilful mariner of all England; — news came to Bristol Monday 18th Sept. that the said ships sailed over the seas for nine months, and found not the island, but through tempests at sea returned to port in Ireland, for laying up their ships and mariners."

In the little red book, p. 158. is recorded a Latin charter of Hen. 4. exempting the mayor and commonalty from the power and jurisdiction of the Admiralty of England, not published in the Bristol charters, only the confirmation of it by Edw. 4. — Henry's charter says, "that considering the many and notable services which very many merchants, burgesses of our town of Bristol, have done for us and our famous progenitors in many ways with their ships and voyages at their own great charges and expence; as also for the grateful sense which we have lately found in the mayor and commonalty of the said town in freely giving us 200l. in our necessities for the more readily expediting certain arduous affairs of our kingdom: and also since many of the said burgesses and merchants have been grievously vexed and disturbed by the lieutenants and ministers of our Admiralty of England, to their great loss and burden: we therefore of our special grace, mere motion and certain knowledge, have granted for us and our heirs to the mayor and commonalty and their heirs, that the said town, &c. shall for ever be free from the jurisdiction, &c. of the said Admiralty, &c."

This charter afforded great relief to the merchants, captains, and citizens.



In 1527, Robert Thorn of Bristol informed Dr. Ley, ambassador from Henry 8th to the Emperor Charles, that "he and his partner in a flote of ships fitted out and armed by the merchants of Seville had ventured and employed 1400 ducats principally, for that two Englishmen, friends of his, learned in cosmography should go in the said ships with Sebastian Cabot, then intended for the Moluccas by the Streights of Magellan in April 1527, but the voyage was performed only to the river of Plate. They were to bring him certain relation of the situation of the country, and to get experience of the navigation of those seas, and information of many other things that he desired to know and any charts by which those of the country sail, &c. for if from the islands of Moluccas the sea doth extend without interposition of land to sail from north to north east point 1700 or 1800 leagues, they should come to the Newfoundland islands that the English discovered, and so we should be nearer to the spiceries by almost 200 leagues than the Emperor or the King of Portugal are."

In the year 1583, Sir Humphrey Gilbert performed a voyage for the colonization of America, an account of which was written by one Haies, gent. in Hackluit, 3d vol. p. 144. — in which he says "the first discovery of these coasts never heard of before was well begun by John Cabot the father and Sebastian his sonne an Englishman borne, who were the first finders out of all that great tract of land stretching from cape Florida unto those islands which we now call Newfoundland: all which they brought and annexed to the Crown of England, soon after Christopher Columbus had discovered the islands and continent of the West Indies for Spain. In the year 1578, Mr. Antony Parkhurst gentleman of Bristol, who had been four years at Newfoundland and had accurately searched the island, sent Mr. Hackluit a letter dated from Bristow, in which he describes the great increase of the fishery or the number of vessels resorting thither, and a natural history of the island. Sir Francis Walsingham 11th March 1582, wrote to Mr. Robert Aldworth then mayor and a merchant of Bristol, commending his good inclination to the western discovery, and recommending to add the two ships or barks he was then fitting out to the fleet of Sir Humphry Gilbert, to which the said Mr. Aldworth replied, that the western voyage intended for the discovery of the coast of America to the south west of Cape Breton was well liked there, that the merchants of Bristol subscribed 1000 marks immediately to it, and that they would furnish a ship of 60 and a bark of 40 tons. dated 27th March 1583. In 1594, the Grace of Bristol the 4th April sailed from Bristol into the great river of St. Laurence for the fims of wales and train oil, as far up



as the island Nantiscot, and returned to Hungroad 24th September the same year. In the Collections of Public Acts it appears, that a patent was granted in 1502 by King Henry 7th. 9th December, to "James (or Hugh) Elliot and Thomas Ashurst merchants of Bristol, and to John Gonzalez and Francis Fernandez, natives of Portugal, to go with English colours in quest of unknown countries upon certain terms expressed in the grant," whether it was in any voyage in company with Cabot or another, I cannot determine. — For I find Robert Thorn afore-mentioned of Bristol, who was sheriff there in 1503, May 1 1511 to Dr. Leigh writes thus; "this inclination and desire of this discovery I inherited from my father, who with another merchant of Bristol, named Hugh Elliot, were the discoverers of the Newfoundlands, of which there is no doubt, (as now plainly appeareth) if the mariners would have been ruled then, and followed the \* pilot's mind, but the lands of the West Indies, from whence all the gold cometh, had been ours; for all is one coast as by the chart appeareth."

One Thorn (the afore-mentioned Robert) a merchant of Bristol is said by Mr. Guthrie † to have "presented a memorial for leave to find out the north-west passage, setting forth the vast advantages which the Emperor and the King of Portugal drew from their American settlements. But though Thorn obtained his request, no discovery of any importance then followed." Nicholas Thorn in his will left all his geographical and nautical instruments to the Grammar school of Bristol founded by his father Robert.

Many voyages were made afterwards from Bristol with the like public spirited views of enriching their country as well as themselves, though not with equal success. One ‡ Mr. Guy in 1609, took out a number of persons of both sexes, designing to form a settlement all the winter in Newfoundland: he was a member of the common council of Bristol, and mayor in 1618. "He procured a charter and licence of the King (James) for his intended plantation, having some rich merchants of London as well as Bristol joined with him for the better and more effectual prosecuting of the scheme. Many of this city did advance money towards it: and so Mr. Guy with some other young merchants being fitted out with more men and all necessaries took shipping here for Newfoundland to make a trial of the place, by staying there all the winter." §

## Y

In

\* Sebastian Cabot's I suppose.

† History of England, v. 2, p. 1052, vid. Annals for the year 1502.

‡ In a manuscript penes me.

§ John de Laet takes notice of this voyage from Bristol: anno 1608, Angli Johanne Guyo Bristolienſi duſtore ſatas ſedes in hac inſula fecerunt ad finem conceptionis, &c.



In Stowe's Chronicle continued by E. Howes p. 913 you have a very particular relation of this voyage, "after the patent was obtained, and several noblemen gentlemen and citizens being thereby made a body corporate by the name of the treasurer and company of adventures and planters of the cities of London and Bristol for the colony and plantation of Newfoundland in the southern and eastern parts lying between the degrees 52 and 46, the company sent ships with men, women and all necessaries thither, and ordained maister John Guy a citizen of Bristol a man very industrious and of good experience to be their General in this plantation, who planted a colony of men and women in the island of Newfoundland, (which was first discovered by Sebastian Cabot and ever since yearly frequented by the English in fishing time;) with them also they for their use to increase there, transported hennies, duckes, pigeons, conies, goats, kine and other live creatures, all which did very well there; this General Guy, staid there with the colony both winter and summer, whose natures and conditions in general agreed very well with the soil and clyme. In this plantation there were sent none but men of civill lyfe, and of some honest trade or profession, by which course they lived and prospered the better: since the date of their charter, 8th James 1. 2d May 1610, they have sent yearly supplies thither unto the year 1614, master John Slaney Esq; being their first treasurer."

In an old leger book in the custody of Mr. Hackluit (v. 3, p. 500 of his voyages) written about 1526 by Mr. N. Thorn the elder a principal merchant of Bristol, it was noted, that before that year one T. Tison an Englishman had "found the way to the West Indies and resided there, and to him the said Mr. N. Thorn then a merchant in Bristol sent armour and other merchandize there specified, whereby it appears, that there was an established trade there very early and from the city of Bristol. In the 1st Elizabeth, when all merchandize was ordered to be shipped in none but English ships, an excellent policy of that wise Queen, a clause was added in favour of the merchants of Bristol, who had sustained "great losses at sea from enemies, who had taken all their best ships and much substance so as not to be able to provide ships of their own &c."—If there were no English ships within forty miles of Bristol, they were allowed to lade their merchandize in foreign ships without being liable to aliens duties."

And from Hackluit (2. vol. p. 3.) it appears that certain merchants of Bristol did not only now (1526) but for a long time before trade by the ships of St. Lucar in Spain to the Canaries, sending cloth, soap &c. and returning with





with dye fluff and drugs, fugar, kidskins, and that they also sent thither factors from Spain.

Bristol was equally industrious in establishing manufactories especially of soap in 1523, supplying London with the best grey speckled soap and with white at 1d. per pound. In 1581 it had a chief manufactory of points or pins, and it was a principal mystery exercised in the town, as were the making of bays and silk hose; and the sail cloth and glass manufacture, and that of hats, cotton and thread hose, &c. is still carried on with great industry.

It appears by the great Red Book of Bristol p. 30, that the mayor, bailiffs and commonalty had a free guild of merchants in the town and suburb, from time beyond the memory of man, and all things belonging to a guild, viz: to buy and sell in the said town freely and quietly from all toll and customs, and had other liberties belonging to them, and for the whole time used to take a certain fine or (præstacionem) to their own use from all who were admitted into the liberties and society of the said guild, to have the liberty aforesaid according to what could be agreed reasonably between them; — the guild was confirmed in their liberties by John Earl of Moreton afterwards King John and by William Earl of Gloucester.

In 7th year of Edward 4, William Canynges being mayor the following ordinances were made for merchants, according to the custom from time immemorial.

1. The maior and council fifteen days after Michaelmas were to call a council and to choose from them a person, that hath been maior or sheriff, to be master of the fellowship of merchants and to choose two merchants for wardens, and two beedles to occupy as beedles and brokers to be attendant the said year upon the said masters and wardens &c.

2. The master and fellowship to have at their will the chapel and the draught chamber at Spicers hall to assemble in, paying 20s. per ann.

3. All merchants to attend (if in town) upon summons, or to pay one pound of wax to the master and fellowship.

4. All rules for selling to strangers of any of the four merchandises to be kept on pain of 20s. for every default one half to the fellowship, the other to the chamber.

5. Nor upon pain aforesaid to sell to any stranger under the ruled price.

6. If any merchant be in distress he must apply to the wardens or beedles declaring the same, and if they provide not a remedy within three days, then the merchant burgeses to sell any of his four merchandises at his pleasure.



Besides the guilds or fraternities for the regulation of trade, there were also religious guilds; one was instituted here 24 Hen. 6. that for the soul's health and good of the King, the mayor and commonalty, and for the prosperity of the mariners who were exposed to manifold dangers and distresses, there should be a fraternity erected to the worship of God, our Lady, St. Clement, St. George, and all the saints of heaven, to be founded in such place in Bristol which the mayor should direct, for a priest and twelve poor mariners to pray daily, as above; to the support of which the master of every ship, barge, &c. after his voyage performed, at his arrival in the port should pay 4d. per ton of goods imported, in two days, to two wardens chosen for the craft of mariners and admitted by the mayor, and all sworn by the articles and orders of the fraternity, on pain of 6s. 8d. if a master, if seaman 3s. 4d. if servant 1s. 8d.

1. One half to the mayor, and the other to the fraternity towards the support of the priest and poor: the like penalty to seamen or servants who refuse or omit paying the 4d. per ton, and the master to forfeit 40s. for the same default.

2. Every master and mariner to attend at the procession of Corpus Christi day, with the rest of his craft, upon the like penalties above.

3. Any mariner convicted of having stolen goods on shipboard, or bringing such into his ship, the mate that receives such mariner shall forfeit 20s.

4. Every master and mariner was in his harness to attend the mayor during the watches of St. John's feast, St. Peter's and St. Paul's on like penalties.

5. None to be chosen into the number of the twelve poor men of the fraternity unless he has performed his duties for seven years, to be chosen by vote; and if he has been a master seven years to receive 12d. per week, otherwise 8d. per week for his finding.

6. A warden omitting to pay the said allowance six weeks to any poor person to forfeit 20s. half to the profit of the town, half to the fraternity.

7. Every Bristol mariner arriving in any other port after the voyage made, though not in a ship of this port, to pay at his coming to the city the same as if he had sailed in a Bristol ship.

There is now an almshouse near the Merchants'-Hall, that has succeeded to this fraternity; and there was formerly a chapel there adjoining, dedicated to St. Clement. — And there has lately been instituted a society called the Captain's or Seaman's Club, by which the widows of captains sailing a certain time out of Bristol have a provision of 8 or 10l. or more, per ann. for their widowhood.



A Society of Merchant-Venturers was incorporated within this city by King Edw. 6. by letters patent 14th December 6th year of his reign; and afterwards confirmed by Queen Elizabeth, and King Charles 1st. They are seized and possessed of manors\* and lands to the amount of upwards of 3000l. per annum, in trust for the maintenance and support of certain almshouses in this city, and for other charitable uses. — They have a common hall to meet and transact their business in, and an almshouse for decayed seamen adjoining: their charter gives them several privileges, powers, and immunities; and private persons becoming members of this honourable society, enjoy some particular advantages in fitting out their ships with respect to wharfage, which those pay who are not free of the Merchants'-Hall.

By an act of council the 13th Cha. 2d. 1661, it was ordered, in consideration the society and fellowship of merchants will be at the costs of enlarging and making new a key, from the lower slip of the Key to a certain place in the Marsh called Aldworth's Dock or Key: and also make the way passable by Rownham convenient for coaches or horses to the Hot-wells, there shall be the sum of 100l. issued out of the chamber towards the advancement and doing of the said public works: and also upon surrender made by the said society of a lease they have now in being of the duties of anchorage and plankage and kannage, a new lease should be granted to them by the mayor and commonalty, of the said duties, for the term of fourscore years, under the old rent and covenants, provided a covenant binding all parties be inserted, that after the new Key be made and enlarged no building shall be erected on the same.

Book of Orders, p. 72.

This lease has been renewed not long since, about the year 1780.

The

\* Part of the manor of Clifton belongs to them, the Hot-well spring and pump-room, and other buildings there, lately much improved; also St. Vincent's Rock above it, where stone is continually digged for making the best lime, great quantities of which are exported to the sugar islands for making sugar. — Besides the plants, &c. mentioned before p. 97, there is lately gathered here a plant called Wild or Mountain Sage, in great quantities, and sent to very distant parts as a remedy for old rheumatisms and fixed pains, and debility thence arising; it is boiled, and half a pint given at a time in these complaints and after gouty fits, and they say to great advantage. — From the high part of St. Vincent's Rock, where they dig the lime stones, to the opposite side, a bridge was once proposed to be thrown by Wm. Vick, Esq; an eminent wine-merchant of Bristol, who left a thousand pounds and interest to accumulate for a certain number of years, if any one within that time should leave any additional sum for the same purpose. Unfortunately no one has left any thing since towards this grand scheme, and the money is now forfeited to his executors.



The following are the arms of the Society of Merchant-Venturers of the city of Bristol, incorporated the 14th December the 6th of Edw. 6. granted by Took Clàrenceiux.

Barry ondè of 6 pieces arg. and azure, on a bend or. a dragon volant vert. on a chief G. a lion passant or. between 2 bezants—upon the beaufmen on a wreath or. and az. the top of a ship or. in the same a man in mail proper, in his right hand a targe, in his left a dart or. supported with two supporters, first a mermaid, the upper part charnè, her hair and fins with an anchor in her hand or. the nether part in proper colours; the second supporter is the figure of Time, the upper part charnè, his wings and nether part or. in his left hand a scythe, the shaft fables, scythe arg. mantled gules, doubled arg.



The arms with the supporters may be seen engraved in the print of the Merchants'-Hall, see chap. on St. Stephen's parish.

So intent have the natives of Bristol ever been on merchandise and navigation, that they frequently have not only ventured their lives and fortunes in search of new countries, and opening new sources of commerce, but their industry has also been crowned with such success as to enable them to assist the government in time of public danger with money and ships, as they did Henry 8. against the French King, and Q. Elizabeth against the Spanish armada. Their knowledge of trade and commercial affairs has been equal to their industry, and they have been sent for in times past to Westminster by the government to advise concerning trade, particularly by Hen. 6. a. r. 36. And Mr. J. Guy, the merchant and alderman before-mentioned, was sent for to London to consult about the decay of trade and coin in 1622.

Bristol being the largest and most convenient western port for trade, and having the benefit of water carriage by the fine river Severn for bringing down the heavy goods and manufactures of the North of England hither for exportation, enjoys very great advantages over many other ports. — This noble river, which our ancestors the Britons called Havren, the Romans Sabrina, and





and the English Severn, rises out of a high mountain in Montgomeryshire, called Plinlimmon or Plynlymon; from hence running South East it receives two small rivulets, and then turning direct North passes through Llanidlos, where receiving the waters of five other streams and running North East to Newtown, it continues its course more to the northward, till it enters Shropshire, and being joined by several brooks by the way, at last reaches Welchpool; having in the space of twenty miles become from a slender silver stream a very deep and copious river, and is navigable from thence to its mouth. From Welchpool the Severn runs North, and then turning East after washing the splendid and populous town of Shrewsbury, (superior to some cities,) runs South East to Bridgenorth; and from thence declining still more to the South enters Worcestershire and proceeds to Bewdley. The Severn, swelled with concurring streams, traverses entirely that country, and having watered amongst other places Worcester and Upton, it passes forward into Gloucestershire and rolls on to Tewkesbury, from whence having visited Gloucester, and meeting still with fresh accession of waters, grows to such a size as to be stiled the Severn Sea, pouring its tide, after a progress of more than a hundred and thirty miles, into the Bristol Channel.\*

The Severn flowing up the river Avon to Bristol, formerly not only great and serviceable ships of burden belonging to merchants, but also to his Majesty had of old time continual recourse hither, say the manuscripts; and several King's ships of war have been built in the docks here.†

As the distinguished privileges and conveniences Bristol has by its situation and free intercourse with Wales and the North of England by the Severn, became more generally known and experienced, so has its trade, shipping and credit increased; and as its merchants have met with success, the industrious naturally resort hither to make a fortune, and the rich to improve one. By trade and navigation many places in every kingdom have rose out of obscurity, and became eminent examples of its extensive utility to a state, and happy influence on a nation; and by its decay places, which once made an illustrious figure in a kingdom, have from superb cities dwindled down into mean towns and villages and sunk into obscurity. With great truth and honour may it be

\* See William of Malmesbury de Gestis Pontific. lib. 4. of the Hygre or Eore, or swelling of the tide suddenly.—Also Camden's Gloucestershire.

† Ships of war built here for government, the *Idip* of 20 guns, in 1655. The *St. Patrick* of 52 guns, in 1660. The *Edgar* of 72 guns, 432 men, 1040 tons, in 1668. The *Oxford* of 74 guns, 274 men, 683 tons, in 1674. The *Northumberland* of 70 guns, 446 men, 1096 tons, in 1679. The *Gloucester* of 60 guns, 316 men, 896 tons. The *Medea* of 32 guns, in 1778. The *Trusty* of 50 guns, and lately many more.



be said, that by merchandise such opulent fortunes have been acquired here as to enable many of our predecessors to build churches, and endow hospitals and almshouses, and leave such noble and princely benefactions for the public use behind them, as are not to be equalled in the kingdom by any city, where private merchants and tradesmen were the donors, as will hereafter be made appear: so that it may be truly said, they got their wealth by industry, managed it with prudence, and above all did not forget to dispose of much of it to public charities.

The trade of this city is esteemed the most considerable of any port in the kingdom, London excepted, especially to the West Indies and North America, to the latter its merchants have the honour of being the first adventurers, and are said to employ about 70 large ships in the trade to the West Indies alone. The Guinea trade has been also very flourishing, and employs a great number of their shipping; though in this Liverpool may probably exceed them. Before the civil war they had a great foreign trade, especially to the West Indies, but since the revolution the trade to North America and Newfoundland, to Guinea, the Mediterranean, to Norway, Hamburgh, and up the Baltic has been greatly improved and extended. They trade here also with less dependence on the Capital than any of the outports. Whatever exportations they make to any part, they can dispose of the full returns, without shipping of any part for London in ships bound thither, or consigning their own vessels to London to dispose of their cargoes. They have buyers at home for their largest cargoes; whence the shopkeepers in Bristol drive a great inland trade, being wholesale dealers throughout the western counties, which employs a great many carriers and waggoners passing and repassing from Bristol to the principal towns. Add to this the navigation of the two great rivers Severn and Wye, whereby they engross in a manner to themselves the whole trade of South Wales, and great part of North Wales, as well as of the English counties bordering on those rivers; and they have all the heavy goods by water from Birmingham and the North of England by trows, a very singular advantage to the foreign or home trade of the place, not less than 100 trows being employed in bringing goods to and from Bristol on the Severn. The trade to Ireland is also very great, a number of ships being constantly employed in it.

The great demand for glass bottles for the Bristol and the Bath waters, for the exportation of beer, cider, and perry, &c. occasion many glass-houses being erected here to supply it: besides there is a great export of plate or window



window glass, vials, and drinking glasses; brass and copper pans, and brass wire from the manufactory here.

The distillery is also become a very capital branch of trade, many great works being erected at amazing expence in different parts of the city; and though nothing is so prejudicial to the health of man as drinking spirituous liquors in any form, so totally destructive of human generation and being, so subversive of our very existence, causing slow but sure death, yet the quantity of rum imported from abroad, of gin and brandy made at home, indicates and proves what a great consumption of these liquors there is now in comparison of what was a few years ago; when there were but few distil houses and but little rum imported or brandy made here. The mischief indeed is not confined to ourselves; it spreads far and wide; for the great export of spirits to Quebec and North America, to Africa and other countries it is, that promotes the distillery here, as well as their too general and fatal use at home; whilst the great consumption of barley and wheat, whence they extract this baneful liquor, leaves us often to lament the scarcity of grain for our necessary uses, for our wholesome food and daily support. Such quantities of spirits are made here from grain (the growth of the adjoining corn-counties, Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Worcestershire, Herefordshire and Wales, from which last they have it by water,) that they send vessels loaded with spirits to London, and even supply that city, where yet such large distilleries are carried on to such a degree and extent as exceeds all belief. But all, all is consumed, to the shortning of the period of human life (alas! too short!) and the absolute extinction of our very being, by drying up and hardning the fine vessels and nerves, rendering them impervious, producing paralytic strokes, hemiplegies, and apoplexies, never before so frequent as of late years, since the frequent and so general use of spirituous liquors, in punch, toddy or alone unmixed.

The present trade of this city to foreign parts is very great; to Florida, Carolina, Maryland, New-York, Philadelphia, Newfoundland and Quebec, ships are employed to export our manufactured goods through the vast continent of North America, and return with tobacco, rice, tar, deer skins, timber, furs, indigo, logwood, &c. and from the West India Islands with sugar, rum, pimento, mahogany, &c. the produce of the several countries, the trade thither having increased in proportion as the colonists have extended their settlements; it reflects no small degree of honour on the city of Bristol that Newfoundland and North America to which they now and ever since have had so great a trade, were first discovered by a Bristol man, and the first



voyage made thither was by ships manned victualled and fitted out here by Bristol merchants. It is yet to be proved whether the trade to America will increase or decline, since some of the colonies grown rich and feeling their own importance, have now set up for themselves and thrown off their allegiance and dependence they owed the mother country by a separation in the year 1783. The trade to Africa for slaves, (a trade now much complained of and about to be regulated by law) ivory, gold dust, &c. has been cultivated here with great spirit and success; the industrious tradefinen also frequently send their goods abroad to great advantage at their own risque; and they freight ships here for any voyage with the greatest dispatch. They employ also ships in the Streights trade, and up the Baltic for deals, &c. and not long since sent them to Greenland in the whale fishery, which proving more uncertain and not so advantageous is dropped entirely for the present. In war time they have fitted out fleets of privateers to the great annoyance of the enemy's trade and assistance to government.

The whole trade of this city may best be estimated by the duties paid on exports and imports annually and the number of ships entered out. By some manuscript papers before me it appears that in 1634 the port of Bristol paid for customs and imposts more then 10,000*l.* and the following years upwards of 25,000*l.* and they have every year since most rapidly increased.

In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, the amount of the customs upon an average of several years was in the port of London 111,000*l.* and in all the other ports of the kingdom 17,000*l.* of which Bristol paid 5000*l.* whereas in the year 1770 and for years past the customs of the port of Bristol alone have amounted to upwards of 200,000*l.* per ann. clear of all bounties paid on exports, officers salaries, &c. the excise pays also 100,000*l.* per ann. But the following account of the gross receipts and neat remittances of the two seaports of Bristol and Liverpool (a dispute having arisen which paid most to government) may be satisfactory to the reader, as it gives the remittances for eight years regularly.





## GROSS RECEIPTS.

BRISTOL.					LIVERPOOL.				
1750	-	-	242,283	4 11	1750	-	-	215,463	8 4
1	-	-	228,517	16 1	1	-	-	163,597	17 10 $\frac{3}{4}$
2	-	-	302,886	5 2	2	-	-	200,409	14 6 $\frac{3}{4}$
3	-	-	301,483	4 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	-	-	210,218	16 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
4	-	-	297,202	0 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	4	-	-	258,456	8 1 $\frac{1}{4}$
5	-	-	333,778	14 5 $\frac{3}{4}$	5	-	-	202,367	6 1
6	-	-	257,560	1 9 $\frac{3}{4}$	6	-	-	165,438	4 3 $\frac{3}{4}$
7	-	-	351,211	9 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	7	-	-	198,946	17 3
<hr/>					<hr/>				
£2,314,922 16 4 $\frac{1}{2}$					£1,614,898 13 1				
Medium.					Medium.				
£289,365 7 0 $\frac{1}{2}$					£201,862 6 7 $\frac{1}{2}$				

## NEAT REMITTANCES.

1750	-	-	128,580	17 10 $\frac{1}{4}$	1750	-	-	58,907	5 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
1	-	-	140,731	0 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	1	-	-	40,648	3 0
2	-	-	158,765	10 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	-	-	44,387	8 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
3	-	-	170,361	13 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	3	-	-	45,479	1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
4	-	-	156,717	9 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	4	-	-	59,766	6 0 $\frac{3}{4}$
5	-	-	177,894	15 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	-	-	49,661	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
6	-	-	156,951	5 5	6	-	-	49,976	11 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
7	-	-	151,516	1 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	7	-	-	60,263	15 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
<hr/>					<hr/>				
£1,241,518 12 11 $\frac{1}{4}$					£409,089 11 2 $\frac{3}{4}$				
Medium.					Medium.				
£155,189 16 7 $\frac{1}{4}$					£51,136 3 10 $\frac{3}{4}$				

The neat remittance for the year 1764 from Bristol was 195,000*l.* and from Liverpool but 70,000*l.* and 2353 vessels entered inward at the Custom-house Bristol the same year.

To shew the great increase of the trade of this city as well as of the number of its shipping the account of the anchorage, wharfage and moorage, paid to the society of merchants for a certain number of years, is an indubitable proof and of this the following is a true and exact amount for the space of thirty two years.



N. B. Every vessel above sixty tons pays wharfage.

				<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
In 1745	-	-	-	918	18	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
6	-	-	-	879	19	6
7	-	-	-	921	13	9
8	-	-	-	1064	1	5
9	-	-	-	1080	7	2
1750	-	-	-	1247	6	0
1	-	-	-	1253	1	6
2	-	-	-	1225	10	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
3	-	-	-	1271	1	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
4	-	-	-	1212	1	11
5	-	-	-	1209	16	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
6	-	-	-	1208	9	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
7	-	-	-	1387	1	5
8	-	-	-	1308	5	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
9	-	-	-	1591	14	6
1760	-	-	-	1379	1	5
1	-	-	-	1289	0	6
2	-	-	-	1253	17	8
3	-	-	-	1351	13	6
4	-	-	-	1286	8	1
5	-	-	-	1483	7	2
6	-	-	-	1481	6	6
7	-	-	-	1547	5	1
8	-	-	-	1657	15	2
9	-	-	-	1593	8	5
1770	-	-	-	1578	18	6
1	-	-	-	1514	7	2
2	-	-	-	1561	0	9
3	-	-	-	1482	0	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
4	-	-	-	1727	18	6
5	upwards of			2000	0	0



The numbers of ships and vessels arriving here, and entered out of the port of Bristol, must ever be varying in different years; and to calculate this with any justness or propriety, the places to which they are sent should be specified: it has been computed thus, though exactness is not to be expected.

Coasting vessels annually employed chiefly on the coast of Somerset, Devon and Cornwall, and Wales down the Bristol Channel, and on the river Wye and all South Wales, &c. about					1000
In 1788	Ships employed in the trade to Jamaica,	-	-	-	34
	To the Leeward islands	-	-	-	38
	To Africa	-	-	-	37
	To Newfoundland	-	-	-	33
	To North America about	-	-	-	50
	Between Bristol and Ireland, France, Spain, and Lon- don, &c. about	-	-	-	200
					<hr/> 1392

Besides 103 trows from 50 to 130 tons employed in carrying goods upon the Severn to and from Bristol.

In the year 1769 there were entered inward at the Custom-house 417 foreign ships, as appears by the presentments of the year, exclusive of Londoners, coasters, &c.

In the year 1742 the privateers fitted out from Bristol alone exceeded in tonnage number of guns and men, the whole Royal Navy of Great Britain in the reign of Queen Elizabeth; though trade and navigation have flourished and been annually improving here for many years yet it has been ever fluctuating from the time of King Henry 2d. 1139, when William of Mahmsbury makes such honourable mention of it to the present time.

The following exact account (which may rectify any errors in the above) of the whole number of ships and their tonnage, including their repeated voyages, that have traded to this port to and from any kingdom in the year 1787, is taken from the Custom-house entries by order of government, when the state of the African slave-trade was the subject of parliamentary enquiry, and petitions were presented for its abolition, and an act was passed for its regulation.



COASTERS.						INWARDS.				OUTWARDS.			
Inwards.			Outwards.			British.		Foreign.		British.		Foreign.	
Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.
1	66,200	5181	1632	62,139	6066	15	1762	0	0	30	4171	0	0
America	Africa	-	-	-	-	17	1477	0	0	36	3745	0	0
	British Colonies	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	3	678	0	0
	Honduras	-	-	-	-	5	843	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Musquito Shore	-	-	-	-	11	1662	16	3045	11	1879	14	2454
	United States	-	-	-	-	71	16,209	0	0	73	16,913	0	0
	West Indies	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	1	39	0	0
	Alderney	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	7	340	0	0
	British Fishery,	-	-	-	-	1	80	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Flanders	-	-	-	-	12	1110	3	135	20	1817	8	152
	France	-	-	-	-	1	20	3	330	0	0	0	0
	Germany	-	-	-	-	4	537	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Greece	-	-	-	-	4	236	0	0	12	605	0	0
	Guernsey	-	-	-	-	9	860	2	190	5	561	4	441
	Holland	-	-	-	-	2	116	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Jersey	-	-	-	-	161	9623	0	0	139	9187	0	0
	Ireland	-	-	-	-	2	68	0	0	1	40	0	0
	Isle of Man	-	-	-	-	17	1709	0	0	4	372	4	690
	Italy	-	-	-	-	1	189	14	3307	0	0	13	2977
	Norway	-	-	-	-	2	461	3	960	0	0	3	960
	Poland	-	-	-	-	23	2504	1	40	12	1579	2	380
	Portugal	-	-	-	-	8	2293	1	140	3	613	0	0
	Prussia	-	-	-	-	2	382	0	0	2	387	0	0
	Southern Whale Fishery	-	-	-	-	37	3633	17	1480	15	1647	18	1691
	Spain	-	-	-	-	0	0	9	1485	0	0	0	0
	Sweden	-	-	-	-	11	2351	0	0	8	2156	0	0
	Russia	-	-	-	-	116	48,125	60	11,112	382	46,729	66	10,445

Ships and Vessels belonging to this port, their tonnage and number of men, that have traded to and from foreign parts; also coasting vessels, fishing vessels, finacks, &c. for the year 1787.

Foreign Trade.			Coasters.			Fishing Vessels, &c.		
Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Ships.	Tons.	Men.
323	53,491	3971	30	3078	192	7	340	30





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## OF BRISTOL in PARTICULAR:

Or, of the CITY as divided into

Particular DISTRICTS, PARISHES, &c.

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### C H A P. VII.

#### *Of the CASTLE.*

THE origin, names, civil government, trade, and description of the city in general at different periods being hitherto noticed, its separate and particular history falls next under consideration; and the Castle with its precincts for its great antiquity and renown claims our first regard.

This castle has been the scene of many interesting transactions and historical events; though it is not mentioned in our chronicles expressly before 1088, 1st of Wm. Rufus, when it is called by Roger Hoveden "Castrum fortissimum." If it was so soon after the conquest, "a castle of the greatest strength," so great as to be made the insurgents head quarters, and the common repository of all the plunder of the country, as will appear below; it must have been built long before, and we must look farther back for the æra of its foundation into the Saxon times: for though the Saxon chronicle has not mentioned it, yet it must have been of that time, and if we give credit to Turgot's account, p. 32, "in the year 915 Edward senr. having made alteratyon of the walles of Bryghtstowe newly ybuylde[n] the castle, beeyng the goodelyesse of fyve ybuylde[n] on Abone bankes, and it was a grete checke to the Danes."

A wall around embattled at the top was the first out-work of defence the city had, and with this it was secured and inclosed on every side, till the castle on the eastern part, where it was then not moted with the river, was afterwards erected for its greater security and protection.



Leland says, out of a book of the antiquities of the monastery of Tewkesbury, which he met with in Latin, "That Robert, (consul of Gloucester,) built the castle of Bristol;" and in another place, "he buildid the castelle of Bristowe, or the most part of it. Every man sayith that he builded the great square stone dungeon, and that the stones thereof came oute of Cæen in Normandie." J. Ross makes Robert Haymo, in the time of William Rufus, Earl of Gloucester, "a founder of Bristol castle." Mr. Cambden, without quoting the authority of Leland or any one else, roundly says, "Robert, natural son of Henry 1st. (commonly called Robert Rufus, consul of Gloucester,) built a large stone castle for the defence of this city. This castle being scarce yet finished, was in 1138 besieged by King Stephen, but he was forced to draw off his forces without effecting any thing."

Unfortunately for Mr. Cambden, Leland, whom he seems to have copied in ascribing the erection of the castle solely to Robert Earl of Gloucester, nowhere says so, as his own opinion; he seems rather to doubt it by saying himself in another place, "he buildid the moste parte of it. Every manne sayith that he buildid the great stone dungeon;" and where he expressly writeth on Brisslow castle, v. 7. p. 84, he only mentions "the great dungeon towre made, as it is sayde, of stone brought out of Normandie by the redde Earl of Glocestre." This surely is far from making him to be the original founder of the castle, as Mr. Cambden has erroneously done: and in page 88 of the same vol. he calls him only "Robertus Consul Lorde of Brightstowe castle, and founder of St. James priorie in the North suburbe of Brightstowe:" here he had the best occasion of calling him the sole and first founder of the castle, but he only makes him Lord or Governor of it, as already built as it really was; for it was certainly held 1088 against Wm. Rufus, 1st W. 2d. by the Bishop of Constance, before Henry 1st. father of Robert Earl of Gloucester was at man's estate; and in T. Wicke's Chron. under the year 1138, p. 27, it is said, "Quod Roberto, &c. *i. e.* King Henry his father assigned to Robert the Earl, those fortified castles of Bristol and Marleberg, &c." The truth is, Robert was only a repairer of the castle and rebuilder of some part of it. — One of the Saxon Kings or Earls of Gloucester, most probably according to the manuscript Edward senr. was the first builder, who, according to the Saxon annals anno 911, sent his army out of West Saxony and Mercia, which country the Danes had invaded; he fought and routed them: Ecwills, Halſden and many of the pagan nobility and soldiers were slain, which being a decisive battle, brought the Danes under the power of the Saxon monarch: for though there were many excursions and engagements afterwards, yet King Edward went on taking



taking cities, building towns and castles; and securing the habitations of the natives, left fortifications in such opportune places, that his conquests were in no danger: but especially it was his care, "that if a town stood on the North side of a river, he would place another on the South side against it, and *vice versa*, that so he might be able every where to put a stop to the incursions of the enemy."

In this he judged very well in building the castle of Bristol on the North side opposite Redcliff; by which means he provided well for the defence of Mercia and West Saxony, separated as it was by the river Avon at this place. By this situation it became a metropolis to those two potent kingdoms, which when united under one Saxon monarch under Egbert the 18th King of the West Saxons, in the year 800, soon induced these succeeding Kings to enlarge the city; and in particular Edward the son of Alfred the Great, to fortify it with a castle on the Mercian side, when before either on this or the West Saxon side, or Redcliff, it was only defended by walls embattled and bulwarks. — The remains of such a kind of fortification are still there to be seen: the embattled wall rebuilt on the old large and thick foundation of the old one being preserved to this day in the same line and situation: the two gates in it Redcliff and Temple were afterwards rebuilt in a modern style; and the ancient tower Eslewyn, afterwards tower Harratzs being destroyed, another building was erected there in its stead.

This castle was pleasantly situated on a rising ground at the East part of the town, which was a great advantage to it as a fortress; it was bounded on the North by the river From, and on the South by the river Avon, having a deep trench, still called Castle-Ditch on the East side, where an arm of the From embracing it discharges itself into the Avon, moating it with water on that side: on the West part it was defended by a deep trench or ditch, from Newgate across the Avon near St. Peter's church, over the middle of which was a draw-bridge leading to the castle-gate from the town, where was what I find called the Barbican Castle, near the East part of St. Peter's church: it was fortified within with very strong walls embattled at the top, and had a sally-port, still so called, leading into the present Queen-street, built on an arch, which the river From flows through. Its out-works were very large, extending to Lawford's-Gate, which still retains its ancient Saxon name, *Hlaford's-Gate*,\*

A A

or

\* Wm. Corbet of Chadfly, held a tenement at Lawford's-Gate for keeping it, 17 Edw. 2d. — Wm. of Worcester, p. 210, says, "Pona Lafford, &c. Lafford's-Gate was rebuilt anew by Walter Barnistaple, in the time of Edward 3d. or Richard 2d. where, at a stone, end the bounds of the city,



or the Lord's gate, so called from the Lords or Governors of the castle. It stands eastward of the castle, between which is a large space of ground now built into a wide street, called the Old Market from a market of old being kept there, not only for the use of the town as may be supposed, but principally for the use of the garrison in the castle. The great avenue to the city out of Gloucestershire was through this gate, over which in two niches were placed two stone figures representing two of the Lord-Wardens of Bristol castle; supposed to be Anglo-Saxon Kings or Earls of Gloucester; and a vellum manuscript of Rowley, *penes me*, tells whom they represent in these words: "Allwarde, a Saxon, was a skyllyd carveller in stone and woude: hee lyved yn the regne of Eldred, he carvelled the worke of the chappelle in the castle and the ymageries wych thenne floode in sayde chapelle, of Ælle and Coërnicius wardens of the castle yn daies of yore: Robert of Glocester removed them to the walle of the ynwarde towere, from whence the present Lorde Warden † hath ta'ne them: Maystre Canynge sayne woulde have the same to be in hys cabinette, but mie Lordis intent is to place them at the gate of the castle or owtyde of the waulls, as a goodlye specktalle for menne to behoulde and yn sooth goodly specktales they be, beyng seatty'd and couroned in robes of estate and paramented—Ne are ensayrer carvel than those of owre daies of durable stone, and the depycture of theyr faces beyng sylly remaynyng by meanes of theyr beyng keepen from the unwere."

About the year 1130, Robert Earl of Gloucester, base son of Henry 1st. began to rebuild this ancient and strong castle, which was now become greatly impaired; and it being the head of his barony of Gloucester, by ancient tenure, and a place of strength capable of being rendered almost impregnable by situation against any military operations of those days, and perhaps foreseeing the storm that was likely to arise about the succession to the crown, he, agreeable to a promise made to his father Henry 1st. to support the interest of his sister Maud the Empress, and love to his nephew Henry 2d. then a child, set about putting himself in a posture of defence in case of exigency, and rebuilt this his castle of Bristol in a very beautiful, strong, and defensible manner. He first removed many of the old buildings erected by the Saxons; on the walls of which were discovered rude paintings in water colours, which is called in Rowley's manuscripts "a coppie of peynslynges founde onne castle walles stondeyng ynne Godesfrye's dayes enthoghten Saxonne." — A Saxon

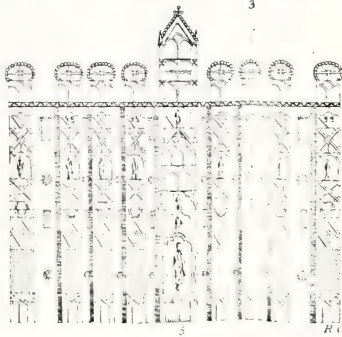
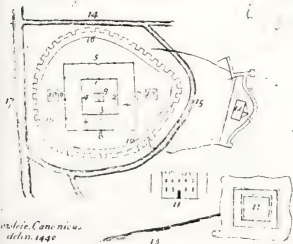
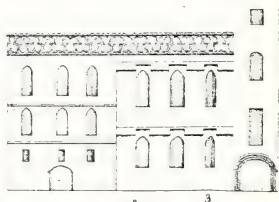
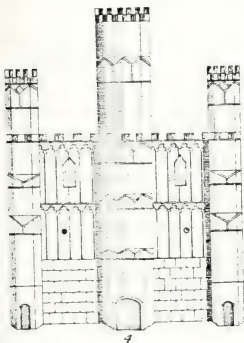
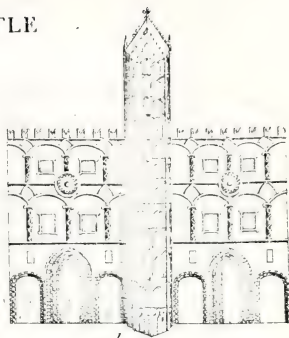
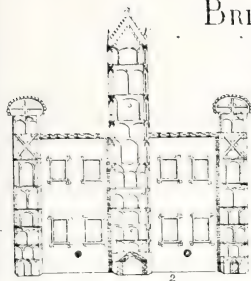
† The gate was taken down in 1776. And these stone figures are removed hence, with two others from Newgate, to a castle-like building at Brisslington, a mile from Bristol, and are there now seen.





# BRISTOL CASTLE

as in 1138





Saxon King is represented with a scepter in his hand, and several men at work fixing large pieces of timber in the ground, others with hammers driving spike nails, and fastening timber together, forming a kind of ladder work, &c. in all probability it is a rude sketch of the first walling the town by Brighthric, or building the castle by Edw. senior.

Many other antiquities were doubtless destroyed in removing the ruins of the old castle, but Earl Robert seems to have preserved as much of the ancient building as it was thought would not interfere with his grand design: — “The outer walle of the castle (says Rowlie’s manuscript) flooden ynne the daies of Williamme Conqueroure; the square castle wythynne was ybuyldenne by Robyrte Conneful of Gloucestre, as bee the crosse ynne the area, and the small stronge holde whyche was thenne a watche towre, ecke the two watche towrettes wythynne the walle of the ould castle. The stronge holde ystondeth atte dyslaunce from the owtre walle of the ould castle onne boncke of Avon, havynge fyrste a square walle of yttes own, and yn the same twayne of buyldynges of this make [ meetynge at these [ ].” Vid. plate No. 11. — Hence it appears what Robert Earl of Glocester did to the old castle: — he preserved the old wall round it, and erected the new buildings within, and the cross; but as Rowlie does not mention the chapel as built by him, No. 3, this was probably part of the old castle, as also the lodge of arrow-men, No. 4, both built in an older style. From the plate alone we can form a just idea of these buildings, it is engraved from drawings on vellum, preserved to this day, to which is added an explanation. The elevations or fronts, No. 1, 2, 3, 4, joined together, formed the inside of the square, and in the middle of this inner court stood the cross, No. 9. No. 5 was a most elegantly enriched front to the outer court and the back part of No. 1, as No. 8 was the back part of No. 3, 7 of 2, 6 of 4. But as I have luckily the original explanation, that is the most authentic as well as only description now extant, I set it down in the very words of the manuscript: “The castle foundatyonne as ytte stoden ynne the daies of Rob. Conf. Gloucestre, wythe Geoffries logge as ytte then was:

Fyrste, the Governours halle fronte.

2. The new-ybulden fronte.

3. The chapelle.

4. The logge of arrow-men.

5. The backe of the Gôvernoures halle wythe toweres.

6, 7. Encrenelled fydes.

8. The backe of the chapelle.

9. The crosse.



10. The two watche towrettes
11. The smalle stronge-holde on the bancke of Avon, with the founda-  
tyonne of the stronge holde near the old walle of the Myttyer castle.
12. Geoffries logge.
13. The river Avon.
14. The river From.
15. Castle Ditch.
16. Walle of the olde castle.
17. Mote next the city, where was a draw-bridge."

The elevations of the buildings No. 1, 2, 5, are so elegant in their design, the fronts so noble and grand, and the windows so neat and justly proportioned, and the ornaments of No. 5 in particular so very many and rich, that it gives one some idea of the good taste of the rebuilder and founder, who was a man of rare endowments of mind, and did honour to the age in which he lived. — The statues in the front marked (5) represented some of the great men who signalized themselves in those days, or distinguished this city by their favour, preference and protection; supposed to be Henry the 1st. at the bottom, father of the founder; Robert Earl of Gloucester himself, Henry the 2d. Robert Fitzhamon, and other Lords of Gloucester before him; Geoffrie Bishop of Constance, and some of the Anglo-Saxon Earls and Kings, Brightric, senr. Alfred and others. The arms at the top are Robert Earl of Gloucester's, and Milo's Earl of Hereford.

The castle of Bristol is thus described by a writer in the days of King Stephen, out of a manuscript in the collection of Archbishop Laud: "*Ex unâ tamen regione, &c.*" *i. e.* "On one part of the city, where it is more exposed and liable to be besieged, a large castle rises high with many banks, strengthened with a wall, bulwarks, towers, and other contrivances to prevent the approach of besiegers; in which they get together such a number of vassals both horse and foot, or rather I might say of robbers and freebooters, that they appear not only great and terrible to the lookers on, but truly horrible; and it is scarce to be credited: for collecting out of different counties and regions, there is so much the more numerous and freer conflux of them, the more easier under a rich Lord and the protection of a very strong castle, they have leave to commit whatever pleases them best in this rich country." — This shows the reason of the *via defensiva*, or defence street, (*vid. Bottener, p. 236.*) being made betwixt the castle and the city, as a guard against the depredations of these freebooters, the licentious soldiery of the castle, upon the peaceable citizens, as the castle was exempted from the jurisdiction of the city and its officers,



officers and under its own Governors, who were not always present to restrain them, or might sometimes connive at the irregularity or insults of the military.

William of Worcester gives the following account of the castle of Bristol in the year 1480, and the dimensions of the several parts. I shall give the whole in English, translated from the Latin, which is so defective as to render it difficult to make sense of in some places. He thus describes the walls and circuit of it, page 208, *via a portâ, &c.*

“ The road from the gate of the entrance to the castle of Bristol, (called in another place, p. 217, the gate of the deep ditch to the doors (*valvas*) of the entrance of the castle,) is near the East part of the church of St. Peter; and you go on marching by the wall of the ditch of the walls of the castle through Newgate and along the street called the Weer, and over Weer-bridge, leaving the watering-place on the left hand, and making a circuit by the wall of the castle-ditch towards the South, near the cross in the Old Market; thus continuing to a great stone about a yard high of freestone, erected at the extremity of the bounds of the city of Bristol; so proceeding on to the gate of the first or eastern entrance of the castle at the West part of St. Philip's church, which is at the end of a lane behind the Old Market; this contains in a circuit of one part of the tower and walls of the castle 420 steps.” At p. 217, he says, “the whole circuit contains 2100 steps.” — *N. B.* His steps vary, but are about 21 inches. — In another place he mentions it, p. 259, in English thus: “ The quantite of the dongeon of the castell of Brissol after the informatione of . . . . porter of the castell, the tour called the dongeon ys in thyknesh at fote 25 pedes, and at the ledyng place under the leede cuveryng 9 feet and dimid; and yn length Este and West 60 pedes, and North and South 45 pedes, with fowre toures standyng uppon the fowre corners: and the hyest toure called the mayn, *i. e.* myghtyest \* toure above all the fowre toures ys 5 fethym hygh abose all the fowre toures, and the wallys be yn thyknesh there 6 fote. Item, the length of the castelle wythynne the wallys Este and West ys 180 virgæ. Item, the brede of the castelle from the North to the South, wyth the grete gardyn, that is from the water-gate to the mayng rounde of the castelle to the walle northward toward the Blak-frerys, 100 yerdes. Item, a bastyle lyeth southward beyond the water-gate, conteynyth yn length 60 virgæ. Item, the length from the bullwork at the utter gate by Seynt Phelippes chyrch yerde, conteynyth 60 yerdes large. Item, the yerdys called sparres of the halle royalle, conteynyth yn length about 45 fete  
of

\* This term is used in the manuscript of Rowlie in the explanation before at fig. 11.





of hole pece. Item, the brede of every sparre at fore conteynyth 12 onch and 8 onches."

And in another place, p. 269, he again describes in Latin: "*Porticus introitus aulæ, &c.*" — The porch or entrance into the hall is ten yards long, with an arched volt over, at the entrance of the great hall.

"The inner entry into the porch of the hall is 140 steps, meaning the space and length betwixt the gate of the castle walls and the walls of the area of the utterward; the length of the hall is 36 yards, or 52 or 54 steps, the breadth of the hall is 18 yards or 26 steps; the heigh of the walls outside the hall is 14 feet, as I measured them; the hall formerly very magnificent in length breadth and heigh, is all tending to ruin. The windows in the hall double, the heigh (de 11 days) contains 14 feet. The length of the rafters of the hall is 32 feet, the Prince's chamber on the left side of the King's hall is 17 yards, in breadth 9 yards and has two pillars made with great beams but very old. The length of the front before the hall with . . is 18 yards. The length of the marble stone table is 15 feet, situated in another part of the hall for the King's table there sitting. The length of the tower in the East part of it is 36 yards, its breadth at the western and South part is 30 yards. The length of the utter-ward of the castle from the middle gate, and lately separated from the inner ward of the chapple, the principal chamber of the hall is 160 steps. The length of the first entrance to the castle by the gate is 40 steps, that is from the street of the castle by entering at the first gate of the castle into the utterward. The chapple in the utterward or first ward is dedicated in honor of St. Martin, but in devotion to St. John the Baptist, a monk of St. James ought to celebrate the office every day, but does it but Sunday, Wednesday and Friday. There is another very magnificent chapple for the King and his lords and ladies, situate in the principal ward on the North side of the hall, where beautiful chambers were built, but are now naked and uncovered, void of plachers or roofing. The dwelling of the officers of the kitchen belong to the inner ward near the hall on the left side, that is on the South part of the hall. The dwelling of the constable or keeper is situate in the first or utterward on the South part of the magnificent tower, but is all pulled down and ruinous, which is great pity."

According to William of Worcester's measurement of the castle, being 540 feet from East to West, or 180 yards; and 300 feet or 100 yards broad from the North (from the garden to the water of Froom) to the South; it stood upon an area containing 3 acres 2 roods and 35 perches exactly, (3 acres and  $\frac{3}{4}$  wanting 5 perches;) whether the great garden within the Baſtyle, (an embattled



embattled wall 60 yards long running towards St. Philip's church-yard,) was part of this ground, is uncertain. In the grant of the castle by Cha. 1st. to the corporation, who purchased it of him in 1626, mention is made of "all that close lying without the ditch of the castle, called by the name of the King's Orchard, containing two acres." — If the Governor's or "Constable's hall, with the magnificent tower, was all pulled down and ruinous" in William of Worcester's time, 1480, it is no wonder his description is so very defective and gives so poor an account of this grand castle.

John Leland, who visited it about the 26th year of Henry 8th, and saw it in its decay, thus describes it: "In the castle be two courtes. In the utter courte, as in the northe-west part of it, is a great dungeon-tower, made as it is said of stone browghte oute of Cane in Normandye, by the redde Erle of Glocester. A praty churche and muche loggyng in two area: on the southe fyde of it a great gate, a stone bridge, and three bullewarks in *lxxv ripi ad ostium frai*. There be manie towres yet standyng in both the courtes, but alle tendith to ruine. The castle and moste parte of the towne by northlie standith upon a grownde metely eninent, betwixt the ryvers Avon and Fraw, alias From." Itin. vol. vii. p. 84. 2d edit.

If the castle, so large and beautiful a building, as described in the manuscript, entitled, Rowleie; of such extent and measurement, as noted by William of Worcester, was ruinous in the time of the latter, 1480, it is no wonder, that Leland, in Henry 8th's. time, almost 100 years after, should find it in decay, and say of it, "all tendith to ruine."

It is left to the candid reader to compare the descriptions above of the castle, and its state and condition at different times. That, called Rowleie's, was either a drawing of it in his own time, or taken from one made long before, when in its perfect state; which is most probable, as he represents himself as a great collector of ancient drawings of buildings, churches, chapels, and the like for himself or friend Mr. Canynge. Though this castle agrees in shape and external disposition with some other old castles, yet it is more decorated with images, ornaments, and tracery work, and in a finer stile than is commonly seen in such buildings; which makes it appear as if some other decorations had been added, especially if compared with a part of the old castle, of which there is a print extant at the side of an old plan of Bristol, by Millard, of the year 1672, wherever he got it: a copy of which is here also presented to the reader, together with the ground plot of the pentagonal fort on St. Michael's-hill, with a scale of yards; both of which are too curious to be omitted in a work of this kind, especially as this presents us with a view of part of Bristol



Bristol castle in the later times, as it stood in the time of the grand rebellion in 1641. (See the plate.) But that in its original state it was very beautiful may be collected from William of Worcester's description and Leland's, and from what Robert, the rhyming monk of Gloucester, says of Robert Earl of Gloucester's improved building of it.

" And Brisflow throw hys wyfe was also hys,  
And he brogt to gret sta the towne as he yut ys,  
And rerde ther an castel myd the noble tour,  
That of alle the tours of Engelonde ys yhelde the floure." p. 433.

It is remarkable, besides the figures in the front of the Governor's hall, there are the arms represented of Robert Earl of Gloucester near the top, carved in the stone, G. three bow-rests or. with singular propriety; also G. two bends, one arg. the other or. which were born by Milo Fitzwarren, Earl of Hereford, whose father is said by Sir Wm. Dugdale to have been Constable of England, and to have been a builder (rather rebuilders or repairers) of the castle of Bristol; and the son \* was in strict league with Robert and of the Empress Maud's party at Bristol, and assisted him in keeping his castles in favour of Maud.

A drawing being found representing Robert the Earl armed cap-a-pee, it is here preserved in the same plate with the castle which he is said so elegantly to have repaired.

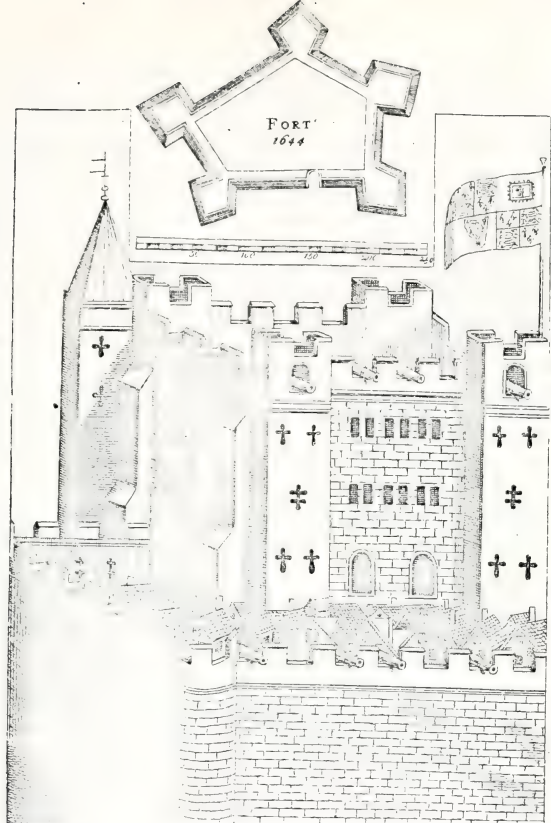
There was formerly a chapel or church, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, possibly the "praty church," mentioned by Leland above, (or one of those two mentioned by William of Worcester) of which I have the following old account, in a vellum manuscript, by Rowlie :

" Seyncte Marie Magdalenes chapele. — This chapele was ybuylden bie Ælle, wardenne of the castle, neere Ælle-gate, sythence cleped New-gate; yn thys chapele was ysworne a treatye between Goddwynne Erle or Abthane of Kente, Harold estfoons Kyng of Englande, Leofinus, hys brodres, and oder nobles of the londe Ælle, the founder thereof, was a manne myckle stronge yn vanquysheyng the Danes: hys ymagerie ynne stone whylom flooden yn sayde chapele, and ys nowe atte the greete yate. Hee dyd ybuyld the same in Dececcxviii. Hee dyde of hys woundes, gotten ynne honourable combatte ynne Brystowe castle. Sayde chapele ys nowe ynne rewyn."

If

\* Leland, Collect. vol. i. p. 41. Milo constabularius, anno 1141, apud Bristolium positus inique consulatus honorem adeptus; rediens a Bristolio obtulit super altare lanthony leunculum chalcædonicum: testes primæ donationis imperatrix Robert. Comes Glocestrie, &c.









If in ruin so long ago, it is no wonder we can see so little trace of it at this day. It is somewhat extraordinary, that the figures of Ælle and Coernicus, that stood in the said chapel, afterwards at Lawford's-gate, have not only escaped hitherto uninjured the devouring hand of time, but are now preserved as a curiosity, by a Bristol gentleman, to adorn a very handsome gate at a Gothic, castle-like building, erected at Brislington his country seat, in the neighbourhood of this city. There were two other figures carved in stone at Newgate in niches, which seemed to have been removed formerly from the castle adjoining to that place; probably at the time of its demolition: That of Robert Earl of Gloucester, much abused, has a small model in stone of a kind of castle in his hand, which he so much repaired as to give him the honour of being a founder; and the other of Godfrey Bishop of Constance better preserved, has a most venerable aspect, long beard, with a chalice in one hand, in the act of taking off the cover with the other, a proper emblem in the hand of a bishop. There are few remains of Bristol castle now extant: on the south side in many places are to be seen parts of the old wall, bounding the dwelling-houses there, and Gothic windows: and on the east side are two Saxon arches with an arched roof in a room there, or possibly an entrance; it has the appearance of a church or chapel, but now makes part of the house of a cooper, and is his shop.

Not far distant from the castle without Lawford's-gate is a place called Barton Regis, giving name to the hundred: it was so called, because a farm or barton in the King's hands to subsist the castle, and demesne lands there reserved for its use; the castle itself after the Conquest in the year 1200 being a royal demesne, before that it was appendant to the honour and barony of Gloucester, and as the lawyers speak, the *caput honoris*.

It appears from Domesday-book, "that this bertune was taxed at six hydes \* t. William 1st. there were forty-two plow tillages whereof three were in demesne, (I suppose for the use of the castle): this manor together with Bristow paid a yearly rent of one hundred and ten marks to the King, and the burgessees returned that Bishop G. had thirty-three marks † and one mark of gold." A Norman mark (says Rapiu) was then valued at 13s. 4d. by which the sum amounts to 73l. 6s. 8d. sterling, and the thirty-three marks to Bishop

B B

G.

\* A hyde of land, according to the manuscript of Joannes Glastonienfis, was 160 acres, a fardel 10, a virgate 40, a hyde 160, a fee 640 acres.

† This Bishop G. was Godfrey Bishop of Constance, custos of the castle, who had 28l. an annual sum paid him, and reserved in after grants to all the constables of the castle.



G. is 28l. within a few shillings, the annual sum paid to the constables of the castle.

The following is copied out of the original Domesday-book. "In Bertune apud Bristlou erant vi hid. In d'no iii car. & xxii vill'i & xv bord. cum xxv car. Ibi x servi. & xviii colib'ti h'ntes xiiii car. Ibi 11 molini de xxvii solid. Q'do Rogerius recep. hoc m. de Rege inveni ibi ii hid & ii car. in dominio & xvii vil'i & xxiii bord. cum xxi car. Ibi iv servos & xiii colib'tos cum iii car.

In uno membro ejusdem m. Manegodesfelle vi boves in do'no.

De eadem t'ra ten. Ecc'la de Bristow iii hid. & i car. habet ibi. Unus Radchenist. ten. i hid. & h't i car & iv bord. cum i car. Hoc m. & Bristou reddit regi ex mark. argenti; burgenfes d'nt q'd Ep's G. h't xxxiii mark. argenti & unam mark. auri p'ter firmam regis."

This extensive manor of Barton Regis (including Kingwood) is now divided among several Lords, the Duke of Beaufort, Archer of Barr's-Court, (formerly Newton,) Esq; — Chesler, — Bragg, — Blathwait, — Creswic, Esqrs. as will be seen below in the parochial history of St. Philip's.

The three hydes of land and one carucate the church of Bristow is said in Domesday-book to hold in the manor of Bertun Regis in William the Conqueror's time, are now scarce to be found, nor to be guessed at. — The manor of Blackworth there indeed was part of the endowment of St. Augustin's monastery afterwards by Robert Fitzharding.

Having now shewn the antiquity, foundation, site and dimensions of the castle, and given a general description of it, I proceed next to an historical account of its Governors, Constables or Wardens from time to time, noting the facts and extraordinary occurrences which have rendered it famous in history.

About the year 920 ELLA was Lord of the castle, and gained many signal victories against the Danes with his Bristlowans, particularly at Watchet; though our Saxon chronicles yet printed have taken little notice of this heroic champion against the Danes, nor indeed of the castle over which he presided. The following old poem was made to the memory of this chieftain about the year 1460, and transcribed from an old parchment in the hand-writing like that in use in Henry the 6th.'s time, and subscribed T. Rowleie.



O thou or what remaynes of thee, Ella the Darlynge of futuritie,  
 Lette this mie songe bolde as thie Courage bee, as everlastyng  
 to posteritie ; Whenne Daciaes Sonnes, whose lockes of bloude  
 Red hue Lyke Kynge-Cuppes burstyng wythe the mornyng dewe,  
 Arraunged in drear Arraie, upon the letthalle daie, spread  
 far ande wyde on Watchettes shore, there dydst thou furyouse  
 Stande ande bie thie burlie Hande, Beprenged all the  
 Meeds wythe gore, drawne bie thie anlace felle, downe  
 to the depthes of Helle, Thousands of Dacians wente,  
 Briflowanes Menne of myghte, Ydar'de the bloudye fyghte  
 And asted deeds full Quente — O thou wher'ere (thie bones  
 at Refle,) thie spryte to haunte delyghteth beste, Whetherre  
 upon the bloude embrewed plaine, or where thou kennst  
 from farre the Horrid Crie of Warre, or feelt some  
 Mountaine made of Corse of Slayne, or feelt the  
 hatched Steede, yprauncyng oer the Meede, ande  
 Neyghe to bee amenge the poynted speeres, or ynn  
 Blacke Armour Stalke arounde ymbattled Bryflowe  
 once thie Grounde, And glowe arduous onne the Castle  
 Steers, or fierie rounde the Mynstere Glare, Styll  
 lette Bryflowe be made thie care, Garde it fromme  
 foemenne and consumyng fyre, Lyke Avones streem  
 enfyрке ytte rounde, ne lette a flame enharme the  
 grounde, Tylle inne one flame alle the whole worlde expyre.

\* Lord of the Castle of Bigflowe ynn Daies of yore.

Turgot observes that Ella died of his wounds in Bristol castle, and from  
 hence it appears he was also buried in the chapel he had there built : and  
 of his memorial stone I have an old drawing with his figure, &c. above  
 described with the name *ETIENNE* over the head, as royally descended crown-  
 ed, and with two keys in his hands as governor of the castle, and a chain  
 round his neck ; it was in the ruinous state of the chapel said to be removed



and preserved by Mr. Canynge afterwards. There are in manuscript the arms of Ella blazoned thus, in Saxon: Sceld a grafen, a shield with crosses patee all over the field. Ella was a name of note in the Saxon times, and is mentioned by Lambard, Top. Dict. p. 106, under Ellandon as "one of the first Saxon capitains," and as giving name to that place and to Ellesfield, and to Ellecroft a place near York.

A bridge near the Castle of Bristol is in ancient deeds called Elle-bridge, and the street next it Elle-bridge-street, now corruptly Ellbroad-street, and there is a place near Watchet called Ellworthy to this day, not improbably named from the same chief who distinguished himself so much there.

2. Coernicus succeeded Ella in the government of Bristol castle: we know nothing more of him than what is mentioned before by Turgot, p. 32.

3. The following two lord wardens of the castle we have little account of, except having their names handed down to us as such by Turgotus, Harward and Smallaricus, 4. Vincent, 5. Adelwyn, 6. to them succeeded Egwyn, to him 7. Aylwardus; called Aylward Sneaw (from his fair complexion) \* he was descended from Edward senr. the founder of the castle, and not improbably his natural son, of whom Leland gives the following account out of a Latin record of the Antiquities of Tewksbury, — "Anno Dom. 930, Sub Ethelstano &c." i. e. "In the year 930 Aylward Meaw (or Sneaw) so called from his white complexion, of the race of Edward senior King of the West Saxons, was a man valiant in arms under King Ethelstan. This Ailward for himself and his wife Algiva in the time of Ethelred and Dunstan the Bishop erected a small monastery in honor of God, St. Mary and St. Bartholomew on his own ground at Cranbourne about the year 980. He died on the calends of January Anno Dom. . . . His son Algar with his wife Algiva succeeded to his fortunes by right of inheritance. The 8th governor of the castle was Adelbryghte. The 9th Amstuarde, and 10th the above mentioned Algarre were successive governors of Bristol castle: 11th Leofwyn, son of Earl Godwyn, in the life time of Algar, seems by the great power of his father and family to have got the government of the castle of Bristol, and Edward the Confessor by a particular charter granted and confirmed it to him in the 9th year of his reign 1049, which being very curious I have inserted before p. 33, as preserved in the original manuscript of Turgot's account of Bristol and no where else.

Upon

\* A gate called Aylward's Gate, since Pirhay Gate, formerly preserved the name here of this Saxon nobleman, the street also called Aylward-street. — Botoner, p. 184.





Upon Earl Godwin and his son's being obliged to leave the kingdom, and having forfeited the King's favour, Bristol castle seems to have reverted to its right owner, who was Bricric the brother of Algar, lord of the castle before Leofwyn. During Leofwyn's holding the castle was that very memorable transaction of Godwin and his family and many of the nobility entering here into a solemn league against the King in the year 1050, for siding so much with the French, introducing its language and laws, &c.

12. Bricric succeeded to Algar's possessions, he was a Saxon nobleman of large estates in the county of Gloucester, of which he was Earl, and consequently had the castle of Bristol of right, being part of that barony.\* He was a principal man in his country, and employed in an embassy to the court of Baldwin Earl of Flanders, where Maud daughter of that Earl settled her affections on him, but not meeting a suitable return (a crime not to be forgiven by the ladies) she meditated revenge, and being afterwards married to William Duke of Normandy, who conquered Harold and got the crown of England, resolved to gratify her vindictive temper by stirring up her husband against Earl Birtick, whose power and large possessions she might represent as dangerous in the hands of a subject: and her artful insinuations met with but too much success, for the King at that time bent upon degrading even to ruin all the rich and powerful English barons, caused the unhappy and innocent Birtic to be arrested at his manor of Hanley by Salisbury, and sent a prisoner to Winchester, where he died without children many years after, 7th Hen. 1st. Leland thus represents it, (vol. 6. p. 85,) "Inne the later reygne of the Danes and Edward the Confessour was Ælwardus Meaw Erle of Gloucester, and he was countid as foundir of Craneburne: Ailwerdus had a funne callyd Bricrice Erle of Gloucester, aboute the tyme of the cummyng of Duke Wylliam of Normandie ynto England. Matildis, wife to Wm. the Conqueror, asked Bricrice yn gifte of her husband, and having hym put hym in the castle of Hanley besides Saresbyrie, and there he dyid. Sum say Matildis would have had hym afore Duke Wylliam to her husband, but he refusing it had after hard favor at her handes." All his estates, among which was the castle of Bristol, the head of his barony, were seized by the crown, and settled by the King on Maud his wife:—As Leland observes, "King William gave the preferment of the counte of Gloucester onto his wife Matilde." She had it till her death the 1st of November 1084.

This

\* His name is variously wrote, Bricric, Brichtic, and Birtic; the last seems to be right from the Saxon derivation, Birt or Birth and ric, i. e. rich by birth or inheritance, as Lewis "*viro præditi*," says Leland.



This Briſtric, ſon of Aylward Meaw, favoured much the city of Briſtol, and Mr. Canynge preſerved in his cabinet “ a ſtonen bed belonging to Erle Briſtric, formerly kept in tower Errys.” He was deſcended from Briſtric King of the Weſt Saxons; and in Mr. Canynge’s collection of antiquities was “ an hyſtory of Brythricus King of Weſt Sexonnes, and annales from hym to Brythrycus the Erle:” but now irrecoverably loſt, and ſaid to be wrote by Turgot a Saxon monk, and continued by Rowlie.

William the Conqueror held the caſtle of Briſtol ſome time in his own hands, and at the time of his death, 1087. 13. Godfrey Biſhop of Conſtance appears next to have the cuſtody or poſſeſſion of it, either by grant from the King, or Queen Matilda during her life; being appointed Vice Comes of Gloceſterſhire, and the deputed or Lieutenant-governor of the Lordſhip of Briſtol and its caſtle; or by ſeizure on the death of William 1ſt. to keep it for Robert his ſon the lawful heir to the crown. In the year 1072, when the great cauſe about the primacy of Canterbury over York was determined at Windſor in the preſence of the King and his nobles, the inſtrument was ſigned there by all preſent, among whom is, “ Ego Goſfrydus Conſtantiensis Epiſcopus unus ex primatibus Angliæ conſenſi.”

In Thorp’s Regiſtrum Roſſenſe, fol. p. 28, is the following, which ſhews Godfry to have been a great man in thoſe days: “ Placito inter Lanſrankum Epiſcopum & Odonem Epiſcopum Baionenſem. Huic placito interſuit Goſfridus Epiſcopus Conſtantiensis, qui in loco Regis fuit & Juſtitiam illam tenuit.” About 1072, this Godfrey Biſhop of Conſtance, or Coutance, was a monk brought over from Normandy with Theodwin, whom King William had promoted to the abby of Ely; and under him having the chief government of the affairs of the monaſtery, was upon the death of Theodwin 1075, ordered by the King to take upon himſelf the adminiſtration of the abby till the King ſhould fix upon a ſucceſſor, which was in about ſeven years. Godfrey was preſent in the year 1080 with Odo Biſhop of Baieux, and Haymo the King’s ſewer, (Dapiſer,) and other barons legati regis, at an aſſembly at Rentford, to enquire into the lands belonging to the church of Ely. The figure of Godfry is ſtill preſerved in the Ely table, a painting of great antiquity hung up in Ely palace, in which are the figures of the monks of Ely, and the knights ſent down to be quartered on them by William the Conqueror, with their arms; in the firſt compartment of this picture are Opſidus Miles Baſilifarum Dux, cum Godfrido monacho, a ſhield between the two heads, ſ. arg. plain croſs gules. If this painting or Ely table ſhould be older than the 11th century, which is the utmoſt extent in which oil painting is placed by Mr. Walpole in his anecdotes



dotes on painting in England, vol. 1. p. 24, it will set aside all the received opinions hitherto on that subject.

The time that these knights were withdrawn from Ely fixes this event to the time of Godfrey's administration, for they were called away and sent from Ely into Normandy on the insurrection of Robert the King's son, who in 1077 was endeavouring to seize the dukedom of Normandy.—Godfrey after this in 1081 was by the King promoted to be Abbot of Malmesbury.—(Vid. Eentham's History of the Church of Ely, p. 106, 1771, and appendix p. 5.)

We find also that in the year 1088, the last year of William the Conqueror, among the witnesses of the grants and confirmation to the monastery of St. Mary at York, of Stephan the abbot and Wm. Rufus, was Godefridus Bishop of Constance, "*qui eo tempore Northumbrorum consulum regebat*," (says Leland in Collect. v. 1. p. 26.)

What a great man in his time and how much favoured by his King this Bishop of Constance was, appears from the numerous and large grants of lands he held. Orderic vitalis, l. 4, says, "*Gulfridus, &c.*" that Gulfrid Bishop of Constance obtained from the gift of King William 280 villages, (*villas*;) which we commonly call manors, (*a manendo*;) from remaining or residing upon them, and that the West Saxons of Dorset and Somerset having assaulted Montacute, (*Montemacutum*;) received a check from this prelate at the head of the men of Monmouthshire, (*Gwentani*;) London and Salisbury. Under the year 1070 he calls him, *magister militum*. He served his sovereign faithfully in several battles against the Danes and English, and he assisted at a council at St. Paul's 1079, and at the Conqueror's funeral: he died himself in 1093.

This Godfrey the Bishop being in the interest of Robert William the Conqueror's eldest son, with his nephew Robert de Mowbray, in 1088 hastened to Bristol to secure the castle, then a strong and defensible fortress, for the next lawful successor, and to keep it as a place of arms and an asylum on their declaring in his favour. It is thus related in the Saxon Chronicle, Gib. edit. p. 193, "*Godfrith Biscop and Rodbeard a munbrug, serdon to Briegstowe and hergodon, and brohton to tham castell the Hergunge.*" That is, "*Bishop Godfrey, and Robert a disturber of the peace, went to Brigflowe and committed spoils and brought their booty into the castle.*" Radulphus de Diceto expressly calls it the bishop's own castle, "*in castello suo Britton.*" Our English chroniclers in that year, 1088, have not omitted mentioning this transaction.



On this combination in favour of Robert being defeated, who sold his birth-right, or rather compounded with his younger brother Wm. Rufus, for the trifling pension of 3000 marks per ann. for the present, and assurance of the crown after his decease, our Lord Warden of the castle, the Bishop of Constance, retreated into Normandy as supposed, being not heard of afterwards, leaving behind him here a lasting memorial of himself in a stone carved figure lately in being in a niche on the left going through Newgate, removed thither out of the castle, and since to Brislington. — Duke Robert was through his credulity and easy disposition cozened of his right of succession on the death of his brother Wm. Rufus by his other brother Henry 1st. who not only deprived him of his crown here, but at length of his dukedom of Normandy also, which having sought unjust occasion of invading, the Duke was conquered and taken prisoner, and sent into England; historians say, he was shut up in Cardiff castle, where he remained in prison till his death; but a vellum manuscript roll (pencs me) mentions "his leaving his gauntelette in Brigstowe castelle," which was preserved afterwards to later times, and at length came into the possession of the great Mr. Canynge, who placed it in his cabinet. He was probably first sent to Bristol and removed afterwards to Cardiff, to be more out of the way, as the people had an affection for him. — I have a drawing of a stone figure in a praying posture once kept in the castle church, under which is inscribed, "Carne of Roberte Courtehoise mynde yn castelle chyrche." This figure is still extant, being fixed in a wall at the upper end of the North aisle of St. Philip's church. And it may be inferred from this, that it is not improbable but that Robert was not only a prisoner in Bristol castle, but might also have lost his eye-sight there by the hot bras bason which was ordered to be applied to his eyes to take away his sight by his cruel brother, to prevent his escape; and then it is likely was sent to die in Cardiff castle in a remote place. The Saxon Chronicle, p. 230, 17. mentions it clearly, that in 1126, "the King permitted his brother Robert to be taken away from Roger Bishop of Saresbury, and committed him to his son Robert Earl of Gloucester, and suffered him to be brought to Brictowe and there to be kept in ward in the castel," adding that this was all done by advice of his daughter and of David King of Scotland.

14. In 1089, Wm. Rufus, in consideration of the great services done him by Robert Fitz Haymon his gentleman of the bedchamber, and an active opponent to the Norman faction stirred up in favour of his brother Robert, gave him the honour and Earldom of Gloucester; which with the castle of Bristol appendent to it he held till his death in 1107, with all the liberties formerly





formerly enjoyed by Birtric: he was a great man of his days, left no male issue, only four daughters. Mabile the eldest King Henry 1st. married to his natural son Robert, which he had by Nesta, daughter of Rhces Prince of South Wales; and unwilling to divide the honour of Glocester amongst all the daughters of Robert Fitz Haymon, conferred the whole on the eldest and his son Robert, and created him Earl of Glocester.

15. In 1110 Robert was Lord of Bristol castle by this marriage and creation, being then about 20 years of age.

This great heiress Mabile, whom he had espoused, was a very lofty dame; the monk of Glocester expresseth King Henry's courting this lady his ward for his son Robert in some curious old rhymes, and her refusal of him at first, like a true lady of quality, for want of a surname of honour and distinction.\*

Sir, theow saide, ich wote your herte upon mee is  
 More for myne heritage, than for myselfe I wis:  
 And such heritage as Ich have, hit were to me greet shame  
 To take a Lorde, but hee hadde any surname: —  
 Damoseill, quoth the Kyng, thou seest well in this case,  
 Sir Robert Fitz Hayme thi fader's name was: —  
 As fayre a name he shall have, as you may see,  
 Sir Robert le Fitz Roy shall his name be: —  
 Damoseill, he say'd, thi Lorde shall have a name  
 For him and for hys heires fayre withoute blame;  
 For Robert Erle of Gloucester, hys name shall be and is,  
 Hee shall be Erle of Gloucester, and his heires I wis:  
 Inne this forme, quoth theow, Ich wole, that all my thyng be his, &c. }

The whole may be seen in Sandford's Genealog. History, p. 46.

Thus was the lady's scruples removed, and Robert's fortune and greatness accomplished 1109, of this he shewed himself highly worthy in the future conduct of his life. He was the most valiant captain of his age, and in requital of his father's bounty was very active in defending the rights of Maud the Empress and her son, afterwards Henry 2d. against Stephen, who usurped the crown, to whom he proved a continual terror, and he laid the ground-work of all the successes in that war. He was tutor and guardian to the young Prince, and having fortified his castle of Bristol against Stephen, he brought him hither as to a place of safety, and put him to school there with the chief

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\* This story is told in nearly the same manner at the end of Langtoft's Chronicle, v. 2, by Hearn, p. 664.



men's sons of the town. Lord Littleton \* thus mentions the fact, and finely characterises both the tutor and his ward: "He (the Prince, afterwards Henry 2d.) was carried to Bristol, and continued there four years under the care of his uncle, (Robert Earl of Gloucester,) who trained him to such exercises as were most proper to form his body for war, and in those studies which might embellish and strengthen his mind. The Earl of Gloucester himself had no inconsiderable tincture of learning, and was the patron of all who excelled in it; † qualities rare at all times in noblemen of his high rank, but particularly in an age when knowledge and valour were thought incompatible, and not to be able to read was a mark of nobility. This truly great man broke through that cloud of barbarous ignorance, and after the example of his father Henry 1st. enlarged his understanding and humanized his mind by a commerce with the muses, which he assiduously cultivated even in courts and camps. — The same love of science and literature he infused into his nephew. — The four years ‡ which he now passed in England (at Bristol) laid the foundation of all that was afterwards most excellent in him; for his earliest impressions were taken from his uncle (Robert), who not only in learning but in all other perfections, in magnanimity, valour, prudence, and all moral virtues was the best example that could be proposed to his imitation."

Such is the excellent character of this valiant Governor and Lord of Bristol castle. — In that memorable battle of Lincoln fought the 25th December 1140, § King Stephen was taken prisoner by Robert Earl of Gloucester, who sent him to the Empress Matilda then at Gloucester, from whence she ordered the King to Bristol castle, where he was honorably treated for some time and kept in a safe but gentle confinement; but by the private instigation of the Empress or some of her party, the King, some say, was afterwards laid in irons under the pretence of being seen beyond the bounds of his confinement. || —

Robert

\* History of the life of Henry 2d. v. 2. p. 58. 3d edit.

† Wm. Malmsh. dedicated his work to him.

‡ In Holiinghead it is said, "he was at Bristol four years, being committed to one Matthews a schoolmaster, to be instructed and trained up in civil behaviour," p. 55.

§ Robert's speech before the battle is preserved in Speed's history, breathing courage, tempered with great prudence and conduct.

|| Lel. Coll. ex Rogero Hoveden. Anno 1137, Robertus Consul filius Henrici regis nothus tenuit contra Stephanum Reg. fortissimum castellum quod dicitur Bristow, & aliud quod vocatur Slede. Anno 1140, Stephanus captus ad imperatricem ducitur & in Turri de Bristow captivus ponitur. — Lel. Stephanus Oderet in Vinculis — Robertus captus, in cuius Turri Rex captivus erat, cuius soli captione rex liberari poterat. Igitur absolutus est uterque. Step. obfessam Matildam intra quoddam castellum & ad deditionem coactam eâ indifferetâ animi simplicitate ad Bristouam libere ire permittit. Col. v. 3. p. 31.



Robert the Earl was afterwards taken prisoner himself near Winchester, and was esteemed an equal ransom for the King, who for his greater dignity was released first, after nine months captivity, on the feast of All-Saints 1141, the Queen and one of her sons, with two principal lords of that party being kept in the castle of Bristol as hostages, from the time of the King's being dismissed from thence till the Earl was also released and returned to his friends at Bristol, when he set free the Queen and other hostages. — This war was now resumed with various successes and disappointments on both sides; but in the year 1146 the Earl of Anjou earnestly desired the Earl of Gloucester would send back his son Henry, who then had been absent from him at Bristol four years, to which the Earl of Gloucester, though unwillingly, consented; but they parted to meet no more, for Robert the Earl died of a fever the 31st of August or the beginning of September 1147, to the great loss of Matilda and injury to her affairs, for he was the most virtuous man confessedly of those times; and his virtue was such that even those times could not corrupt it: — It was thought he might have attained the crown himself, the nation being equally grown tired of Matilda and of Stephen, but he thought it less glorious to be a King, than to preserve his fidelity and honour inviolate.

This Earl added so many new, strong and fine buildings to his castle of Bristol, and rendered it a fortress so much more defensible, that he may be esteemed justly a founder, and was thus complimented in a stone statue “formerly preserved in the inner afforcements of the castle,” then at its demolition fixed up at Newgate on the right hand opposite the Bishop of Constance, since removed to a gentleman's seat at Briffington. He was buried in the choir at St. James's priory in Bristol, which he had founded in 1129.

Milo Earl of Hereford was appointed to the custody of the castle of Bristol in the wars with King Stephen 1141, where he made great repairs and improvements, as appears by his arms on the top of the governors hall-front G. two bends, one or, the other argent, along with Robert Earl of Gloucester's. — After it was taken Sir Bartholomew de Currishall (whence the Cheurchill or Churchill family) held it for King Stephen.

16. The next Lord of Bristol castle was William, eldest son and heir of the above Robert: Leland says, “Robertus Consul had a sunne caullid Wylliam that was Erle after him: — Wylliam dyed yn Brightetlow castell, and wyllid to be buryid by hys father at St. James, but he was prively conveyed by night onto Cantham. He had founded there a finale priory in memory of his son Robert, who died younge 1166: and after he newly repayred it and endowed it, makyng it an abby of canons regular; he gave it the whole lordshyp of



Marfchefel and impropriated the benefice to St. James priory, and the benefice came confequently to Tewksbury." — This William died here in 1173, and had three daughters, Mabile, Amicia and Ifabel.

In the 35th year of Henry 2d. 1189, Ifabel was married to John Earl of Moreton, the King's youngelt fon; to her William had given the earldom of Glocefter, and Henry engaged to give Mabile 100 pounds in portion in lieu thereof. John continued his marriage with her until the firft year of his coming to the crown, 1199, when having no iffue by her he divorced her, and ſhe married Jeoffry de Mandeville Earl of Effex: John gave back great part of her fortune, but retained the honor of Glocefter and the lordſhip of Briſtol in his own hands with the caſtle, which never after returned to the Earls of Glocefter the right heirs. — Leland ſays, v. 6. p. 86, " King John had no iffue by her, and kepte her but a yere, (which muſt be a miſtake,) and ſo repudiating her toke to wyfe the Erle of Herefordes daughter, and reteynid yn his bondes the toun and caſtelle of Brightſtowe within the hundred of Berton, lying in Gloceſtyrſhire hard by Brightſtowe, as betwixt the foreſt of Kingſwode and it: and ſo it hath ſynce ſtil remaynid yn the Kinges handes."

The caſtle of Briſtol having been thus in the poſſeſſion of 16 lords doing baronial homage or ſervice from its firſt erection Anno Dom. 915 till the 1ſt year of King John, was with the city now become a royal demefne, and annexed to the crown: and from henceforth the Kings of England reſerved it to their own uſe, chooſing the conſtable and other officers, keeping a garrifon there, and appointing them ſalaries and perquiſites. King John in the 8th year of his reign granted the town of Briſtol in fee farm to the burgeſſes at a yearly rent of 245l. which rent was paid to the 9th of Henry 3d. (the caſtle of Briſtol excepted,) reſerving the priſage of beer, as much as the conſtable of the caſtle and his people there may have need of, alſo the bailiwick of Berton, the chaſe of Brull [ii] of Keynſham, and the wood of Furches, all which the King retained in his own hands.\* — And the 17th of Edw. 1ſt. the townſmen of Briſtol paid 23l. 9s. 10d. to the conſtable of Briſtol caſtle in lieu of priſe of beer, called tyne, belonging to the caſtle, and the conſtable accounted to the King for the ſame, as part of the profits of the caſtle.†

What this priſage or tyne was, may be right to enquire: — It is evident the conſtables, knights and ſerjeants which were in caſtles, as well thoſe belonging to the King, as thoſe before belonging to the barons, did uſe in former ages to exerciſe great ſuperiority over the towns which were near them, as was this

\* Madox Excheq. p. 228, c. 2. (n.) (s.)

† Magn. Rot. 17 Edw. 1ſt. Rot. 1. m. 2. a.





this of Bristol, and also over the adjacent country : no wonder men who were covered with steel should domineer over burgessees and peasants, the armed over the unarmed ; the former used to make captures upon the latter of hay, corn, beer, and other things under divers denominations, to wit, of prise, tyne of castle, forage, &c. — The prise of beer, *prisæ cerevisiæ* for the use of the castle of Bristol was usually worth by the year 100s. or 5*l.* and was answered to the King as a yearly due. By custom these captures became familiar and even rightful. But the burgessees of towns were wont to complain of these captures to the King, who in some charters made to towns, did sometimes grant amongst other franchises, that they should be free from prise, tyne of castle, and such like captures.

In 1289 Peter de la Mare renders an account to the King of 23*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.* in lieu of prise of beer called tyne, belonging to the castle, as part of its profits, so that *tyna castri* seems to have been various at different times. — In the 15th year of Henry 3d. the sheriff of Gloucester, Wm. de Putois, would not answer for the profits of the county, because the King had granted them for the custody of the castles of Bristol and Gloucester, and for the maintenance of Eleonor his kinswoman and of all the foldiers dwelling in the castles of Bristol and Gloucester all the profits of the county of Gloucester and the rent of Berton Regis there of 60 marks by the year, and the prise of beer worth 100s.

The castle of Bristol being now vested in the crown and a part of the royal demesnes in the King's hand, he used to issue forth his grant of the constablenesship of the castle to his nobles or favorites ; who had 20*l.* per ann. salary with all profits belonging to the said office, and the naming of two watchmen to watch by night and by day, and for the keeper of the gate a fee of 2*d.* a day, and 3½*d.* per day for the two watchmen, as appears from the copy of the grant of the said constablenesship the 4th Edw. 6th. to Sir William Herbert, knight, together with the stewardship of the city, in the following form.

Edwardus Sextus Dei gratiâ, &c. *i. e.* Edward the sixth by the grace of God, King of England, France and Ireland, defender of the faith, of the church of England and Ireland the supreme head, to all to whom these presents shall come, health — know ye that we in consideration of the good, true and faithful service which our beloved and faithful servant Wm. Herbert knight hath done us in times past, of our own special favour, certain knowledge and meer motion, as also with the advice of our council have given and granted, and by these presents confirmed to the said W. Herbert knight, the office of constable or keeper of the castle of our city or town of Bristol, and warder or keeper of the gate of the said castle, and also the nomination and  
appointment



appointment of the two watchmen to watch as well by day as by night within the said castle: and that he have authority and power from time to time to nominate and appoint under him two watchmen within the said castle, and we ordain and appoint him the said W. Herbert, knight, constable and keeper of the aforesaid castle, and warden and keeper of the gate of the said castle by these presents, to have, hold and enjoy the offices, nomination, custody aforesaid and each of them, to the said W. Herbert by himself or by some sufficient deputy or deputies for the term of his life, together with all and singular the profits allowances commodities and emoluments freely and as amply as Edward Duke of Somerset, or any other on account of the said offices held the same; and we further grant by these presents to the said W. Herbert for the exercise of the said office of constable, twenty pounds payable by the sheriff of Bristol out of the ferm of the said city, and two pence a day for the office of warden, and for the wages of the two watchmen, three pence farthing, together with all other profits, &c. belonging to the said offices, &c. And as Edward Duke of Somerset our uncle lately held the office of seneschall or steward of the said city or town of Bristol, with the fee, profits, &c. belonging to the said office, of the gift and grant of the mayor and commonalty of the same, which office with the fee and profits, &c. are lately come into our hands and our disposal, and so ought to remain by reason and virtue of a certain act of parliament held at Westminster, 4th November last past, among other things published and proposed, know ye that we have given and granted by these presents to the said W. Herbert, knight, the said office of seneschal or steward of the said city or town of Bristol, as fully as it is come to our hands by reason of the said act of parliament and ought to be and remain, to have and to hold the said office for the natural life of the said Duke of Somerset, without any composition to us or our heirs, &c.

Witness myself at Westminster 27th Feb. 4th year of our reign.

The custodes or constables of Bristol castle appointed by the Kings of England that have come to my knowledge are next to be considered, without omitting any memorable transactions that have happened here during their government. King John in the 6th year of his reign, confirmed to John le Warre the grant (which he had formerly made to him before he attained the crown of this realm, at the request of Isabel then his wife, daughter and coheir of William Earl of Gloucester) of the honor of Gloucester and castle of Bristol, with the manor of Brisseton a part of that honor.

In the reign of King John, Hugo de Hastings was constable of Bristol castle: whether it was during his custody of it or not, does not appear; but

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in this reign the princess Eleanor, called the damozel of Brittany, after a successful battle fought by King John against her brother Prince Arthur at Mirable in Normandy, 1st August 1202, was by the King's order sent to Bristol castle, and there kept close prisoner for forty years by her cruel uncle King John, for no other crime but her title to the crown after her brother, who was supposed to have been privately made away with. She at last died here unmarried in miserable confinement in the 25th of Henry 3d. 1241.

In the 7th year of Richard 1st. 1196, Bristol castle was besieged, and one Richard Doreseuilz was amerced 5l. for having assisted at the siege.

In the 8th year of his reign, 1224, Henry the 3d. having made Ralph de Wilington (called in old writings Radulphus de Castello) governor and constable of this castle, gave him also the wardenship of the chase of Kainsham, which shews the Kings of England had once a chase there for the ranging of deer; and in 1229 Hugo de Burge was governor here: and in 1257 King Henry the 3d. came to Bristol, and summoned Lord Percy to attend him there upon an expedition into Wales.

In 1244 Henry the 3d. ordains that as often as the burgeses of Bristol shall choose a mayor, (the time of war only excepted,) they shall bring him before the constable of the castle to be sworn and admitted.

Roger de Læburne a baron, Anno 44th Henry the 3d. 1260 was made constable of the castle of Bristol.

"In 1264 Guarine de Bassingburne and Robert Walerande, keepers of Briflow made oute suddenly an hoste to Walingford, but they prevayled lytle," says Leland Collect. p. 660. It was designed for the relief of Prince Edward then a prisoner there, under the Earl of Leicester one of the rebellious barons. Soon after this Bartholomew de Inowence was made constable of Bristol castle.

In the Baron's wars in the reign of Henry the 3d. each party being ready to take what advantages should offer during that state of uncertainty, Prince Edward son to King Henry, thought it necessary to store with provisions Bristol castle, which the King his father had intrusted him with: to that end he came to Bristol and would have obliged the townsmen to find him what provisions he wanted; to supply which he fined the burgeses 1000l. As people stood then disposed, this demand made perhaps a little too haughtily raised a sedition among the townsmen, which forced the Prince to retire hastily into the castle; he was no sooner there, but the inhabitants resolved to besiege him; or at least to keep him so closely blocked up that he should not escape, well knowing that for want of necessities he could not long resist.

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This resolution threw Edward into a very great strait: he got out of it however by a device, which indeed freed him from the present danger, but soon brought him into another, from whence he could not so happily disengage himself: he sent for the Bishop of Worcester and intimated to him, that he intended to adhere to the barons; but desired first to talk with the King his father to persuade him to give them entire satisfaction: but being thus blocked up, he desired him to be security for him and to accompany him to London to witness his conduct. The Bishop depending on the Prince's sincerity prevailed on the townsmen to let Edward go; to which they consented and the blockade was raised. The Prince and Bishop set out on their journey; but when they came near Windsor, Edward clapping spurs to his horse rode away from the Bishop, and secured himself in that castle; but was soon after forced to accept of the barons terms, and to surrender that castle to them. This was in the year 1263.

William son of Hugh and brother of Gilbert Lord Talbot had custody of the castle of Bristol, the 18th of Henry 3d.

In the year 1271, Dominus Johannes de Muscres was constable of the castle, and William de Stanburst subconstabularius.

In 17th Edward 1st. 1289, Peter de la Mare was constable of Bristol castle, and renders an account to the King of 23l. 9s. 10d. in lieu of prize of beer called Tyna Castri belonging to the castle, as part of its profits. The Scotch Earl of Marr was taken and confined in Bristol castle from the year 1306 to 1314.

In the reign of King Edward the 1st. upon the beginning of his wars in Scotland, which happened about the year 1295, Bartholomew Badlesmere was employed by the King, who for his gallant behaviour there, was summoned as a baron to parliament, and became a very great man in his time: he was also made governor of Bristol castle, and received a grant from the King of the manor of Chilham in Kent. He was a second time made governor of the castle, town and berton of Bristol.

Roger Bygod son of Hugh, nephew and heir to the last Earl, had a grant from King Edward of the castles of Bristol and Nottingham to hold for life, and the 20th Edward 1st. he surrendered them to him again.

In the reign of King Edward the 2d. Hugh le Spencer Earl of Winton, called by historians senior, for distinction from his son Hugh, who were both chief favorites of the King, by their excessive pride and covetousness became extremely odious to the people, as well as to the Queen and Prince, who were both out of England and durst not return; being banished by the King as traitors. The Queen hearing of the sentiments of the people, made sail for  
England,





England, where she framed a powerful army of mal-contents, who marching with her to Bristol, where the King then was, were joyfully received by the inhabitants; and in testimony of her welcome Hugh the father being brought before Prince Edward and the barons attending him, (though 90 years of age) was condemned to be hanged, which sentence was put in execution on the 25th of October 1326, in the sight of the King and his own son Hugh (who escaped not his punishment.) Leland tells us, Col. 673. vol. ii. that "Sir Hugh Spensar the father was drawen hanged and behedded at Bristowe, and his body hanged up with two stronge cordes, and after four days it was cut to peices and dogges did ete it: and because he was Counte of Wyncheſter his hedde was sent thither." Upon the death of Lord Hugh le Despencer, the King and Hugh the son early in the morning entered a little vessel behind the castle, with design to get to the Isle of Lundy, a place of security, or else into Ireland; but after being many days at sea were perpetually driven back by contrary winds: and at length being obliged to land, they came ashore at Glamorgan, from whence they retired to the abby of Neath, where trusting to the promises of the Welch they hoped for security. But Hugh not thinking it safe to trust them got privately into the castle of Kaerfilli, which he stoutly defended, and in the end obtained of the forces sent by Queen Isabel a capitulation, with a promise of safety as to life and limb. After which he got again to the King, but soon after, viz. on the 16th of November following, the King, Spencer, Chancellor Baldock, and Simon de Reading and a few other domestics, were taken near the castle of Lantryſſern; some say, at the abby of Neath. On the 20th following they were removed to Monmouth castle, where the great seal was forced from the King. From thence they were all brought prisoners by Sir Henry Beaumont to Hereford, and were delivered to the disposal of the Queen and her son, who soon after ordered them all (except Chancellor Baldoc) to be hanged: as for the King he was deposed and kept close prisoner at Kenelworth-castle, from thence he was removed in April 1327 to Corſ-castle, and then to Bristol-castle: there he remained until it was found out that some of the town had formed a resolution to assist him in making his escape beyond sea. Upon this discovery he was removed to Berkeley castle, which was to be his last prison: here he was under the care of Sir John Maltravers, and Sir Thomas Gurney:—"These champions (says Stowe) bring Edward towards Batkley, being guarded by a rabble of hellhounds, along by the Grange belonging to the castle of Briſſowe, where that wicked man Gorney making a crowne of haye put it on his head, and the soldiers that were present mocked him, saying, "Tprut avaunt Sir



King," making a kind of noise with their mouths as if they broke wind backwards: they feared to be met of any that should knowe Edward: they bente their journey therefore towardes the left hande, riding along over the marish grounds lying by the river Severn; moreover devising to disfigure him that he should not be known, they determined to shave his head and beard; wherefore as they travelled by a little water that ran in a ditch, they commaunded hym to lyghte from his horse to be shaven with the said cold water by the barber, who said, "that water must serve for this time." Edward answered, "would they, nould they, he would have warm water for his beard," so shed tears plentifully." On the 22d September 1327, they put their bloody orders into execution by thrusting a red-hot iron through a horn pipe up his fundament, which burnt his bowels, and by this horrible murder the unhappy Prince expired.\*—In order to conceal their execrable deed, the two murderers sent for some of the inhabitants of Bristol and Gloucester to examine the body; and there appearing no marks of violence, they concluded he died a natural death; this examination was carefully attested by witnesses and immediately dispersed over the whole kingdom.

In the year 1336, the 9th of Edward the 3d. an inquisition was taken the 17th of May in the castle of Bristol, relating to the right of patronage of the house of St. Mark of Billiswick in Bristol, before Hugh le Hunte, who was then deputy constable there; and in the 13th of the same King, Richard de Kyngheston was constable of the castle.

In the 35th year of Edward the 3d. Queen Phillippa grants Edmund Flam-bard the constableship of this castle for life, receiving 20l. per ann. besides fees for the watchmen and the officers of the Forest of Kingswood and Filwood; he resigned the same, and then she appoints Robert de Foulehurst in his room, which was confirmed by King Edward.

King Edward the 3d. 1373, in his charter separated Bristol from the county of Gloucester and made it a town and county of itself, and ordered that for the future the mayor when chosen should not be presented [as usually] to the constable of the castle of Bristol to be by him accepted: But that presently after

\* By inquisition in Cotton's Abridgement of the Records, it appeared that Thomas Lord Berkley was not then at Berkley, and had no part in this murder. — Mr. Gray in his Pindaric Ode called the Bard, finely touches this barbarous murder:

Mark the year, and mark the night,  
When Severn shall re-echo with affright  
The shrieks of death, thro' Berkley's roofs that ring,  
Shrieks of an agonizing King!



after his election, he should take his oath before his next predecessor mayor, in the Guildhall of Bristol.

In the 43d year of Edward 3d. 20th August, Hugh de Segrave was appointed governor of this castle for life.

And the 15th July, 47th of Edward 3d. John de Thorp had the constableness of this castle granted to him.

In the 10th year of Richard the 2d. the parliament accused many of his domestics of high treason, three of whom, viz. Sir John Salisbury, Knight, Sir Thomas Trivet, Knight, and John Lincoln, Esq; (after a long confinement in Bristol castle,) were at length removed to the Tower of London, after which on the 12th of May 1389, Sir John Salisbury was executed at Tyburn, and the other two were discharged. — King Richard by following his own vicious inclinations, and the advice of his evil counsellors, was his own destruction. Four of them (in order to escape the hand of justice from the Duke of Lancaster, who was now in England with an army as a competitor for the crown,) made their escape from London to the castle of Bristol with an intention to have made a stout resistance, viz. Wm. Scroop Earl of Wiltshire, Sir John Busby Knight, who had been Speaker of the House of Commons the last parliament, Sir Henry Green, and Sir James Bagot, Knights. They came here in the month of July 1399, but were soon followed by the Duke of Lancaster, at whose arrival the gates of the town were thrown open to the Duke's forces; he immediately commanded the castle of Bristol to be stormed; which in four days time surrendered at discretion, and soon after the three first were beheaded, but Sir James Bagot made his escape into Ireland. The 29th of September following King Richard was deposed, and not long after he was by eight assassins and Sir Pierce of Exton, murdered in Pomfret-castle. — John de Thorp continued constable of the castle the 1st and 3d year of Richard 2d.

Henry the 4th and his wife Joan, Nov. 14, 1413, constitute Hugh Lutterel constable of the castle of Bristol.

King Henry 6th. in the year 1444, granted the manor and hundred of Bristol (with other things) to Henry de Beauchamp, son of the late Earl of Warwick, in reversion, from the death of Humphry Duke of Gloucester; and Leland v. 6. Itin. p. 80, calls him, "*Dominus quoque Castri Bristollicæ cum suis annexis.*"

The 16th Jan. 21st of Henry 6th. Sir John St. Loe was made constable of the castle of Bristol for life: he died the 12th of March the 26th of Henry 6th.

In the 21th year of his reign 1445, King Henry 6th grants to the mayor, &c. of Bristol, all the gates, ditches, walls and suburbs of the said town, with all fairs, markets and courts there and in the suburbs, with all fines, issues,



redemptions, and amerciaments belonging to the same, (the castle of Bristol and its ditches excepted:) this grant was for 60 years, the mayor, &c. paying into the exchequer per ann. during that term 102 l. 15 s. 6 d. and to the abbot of Tewkesbury (for the time being) for the tythes of the town 14 l. 10 s. to the prior of St. James of Bristol (for the time being) for the yearly rent of the mill at St. James's-Back 3 l. to the constable of the castle of Bristol and his officers for the time being, (that is to say,) to the porters of the gate and watchmen of the castle, and to the forrester of Kingwood, 39 l. 14 s. 6 d. to the (custodi maritimo) the warden of the port or quay-warden 6 s. 8 d.

King Edward the 4th. in his progress about several parts of the kingdom, came to his castle of Bristol; when Sir Humphrey Stafford of Hooke had a grant, dated the 15th of June, from the King of the stewardship of the dutchy of Cornwall for life, likewise the constableship of Bristol castle, and of several of the King's forests, with that of the constablewick of the forest of Kingwood, which in former times was of great extent and annexed to the castle. This gentleman was a branch of the family of the Earls of Stafford, he died the 6th of August the same year, according to Dugdale, v. 1. p. 173.

In the 1st year of Edward 4th. 1461, Sir Baldwin Fulford after suffering imprisonment with his two accomplices, Bright and Hellant, Esqrs. in Brittol castle, were executed here, the former having given bond to Henry 6th. that he would either take away the life of the Earl of Warwick, who was then plotting to dethrone the reigning sovereign, or lose his own head. Our old chroniclers in the year 1460 mention this fact; Stowe relates it thus under that year: "Sir Baudewine Fulford undertook under pain of losing his head to destroy the Earl of Warwick, but when he had spent the King a thousand marks in money he returned again:" but an additional authentic evidence of this fact is in an old parchment roll, in which among other curiosities preserved in the cabinet of Mr. Canynge, is mentioned "the real bond given to Henry 6th. by Sir Charles Bawdin à Fulford (commonly cleped Baudin Fulford) to teke the life of the Erl of Warwick or lose his head, which he did to Edward 4th." See p. 45.

By an entry in the old church books of St. Ewen in this city, "for washing and cleening the church when King Edward the 4th. came there in September 1461, 4d." it appears when this event of Sir Baudwyn Fulford happened, and it confirms the account above given; King Edward having stood at the great window there when he passed by to his fate. Mr. Canynge was also mayor in 1461 to September 29th of that year, when Phillip Mede was chosen, so that the execution of Sir Baudwin Fulford must have been the beginning or middle of September 1461. — Mr. Adams's manuscript penes me says, "King Edward





Edward came to Bristol in September 1461, where Sir John Bawdin Fulford, Bright and Hefiant were beheaded,"—and in 1474 he lodged at the abbey of St. Austin's there. This family of Fulford was of great note and antiquity in the county of Devon; there is a place of that name near Exeter now, which seems to have given name to the family (*de turpi vado*) and was their seat and residence. — John Fulford a descendant of Sir Baudwin of Fulford, was sheriff of Devon the 27th of Henry 8th. he bore G. a chevron arg. — One of the family, son of the above Sir Baldwin, lies buried in Exeter cathedral, with an inscription in Gothic letters on a large black marble stone in the eastern aisle still to be seen: *Hic jacet magnif. Joannes Fulford filius Baldwini Fulford milit. hui. Eccle'. Resid. pr<sup>o</sup>. Archid<sup>us</sup> Tottn. deinde Cornub' ult<sup>o</sup>. Exon, q. obiit xix die Januarii A. D. xv.xviii cui aize ppitietur Deus.* — Here lies Master John Fulford, son of Sir Baldwin Fulford, Knight, residentiary of this church, first Archdeacon of Totness, then of Cornwall, and lastly of Exeter, who died 19th January A. D. 1518, on whose soul may God have mercy.

This event has given occasion to a poem called the Bristol Tragedy, lately published among Rowley's poems, in which the name is called Sir Charles Bawdin Fulford. In the manuscript (Adams's penes me) he is called Sir John Bawdin Fulford, which shews how uncertain they were in the name at the time, and that the misnomer in that poem derogates little from its authenticity. It is remarkable, that one Sir Cantelow in the service of Edward the 4th. is introduced as an active person in that tragedy; and it appears (by a manuscript, Rich penes me,) that Henry 6th. was taken in disguised apparel at the abbey of Salley in Yorkshire by one Cantelow, in 1465, and was thence brought to Ellstone, and then to the Tower; this is a proof that King Edward the 4th. had such a person as Sir Cantelow much in his interest and at his command, and affords some additional proof of the authenticity of that poem.

In the reign of King Henry the 7th. Giles Lord D'Aubeny held the castle of Bristol; as did afterwards Sir John Seymour of Walthall in the county of Wilts Knight, he was the son of Sir Roger Seymour of Evenfwindon in the county of Wilts Knight, by Cecilia his wife, daughter of John Lord Beauchamp, of Hathe in the county of Somerset: the said Sir John in the 9th year of the reign of King Henry the 8th. 1518, was one of the knights for the body of that King; he obtained a grant at that time of the constablewick of this castle for his own life, after which to his son Edward, to hold in as ample manner as the said Giles Lord D'Aubeny held the same.

In the 4th year of Edward the 6th. Sir William Herbert was granted the custody of this castle.



Upon the alteration of religion in 1549, many rebellious tumults broke out in Cornwall, Devonshire, Norwich, and at Bristol. At the last place timely care was taken to repair and fortify the castle and walls of the city, which were mounted with cannon, also the city gates, most of which were made new; proper guards being placed night and day to prevent any attempts which might be made by any tumult within the city, or without in order to surprize the same. By the prudent management of Mr. William Chester the discontented citizens were soon appeased, by his procuring a general pardon for them; after which the soldiers within the city (commanded by Lord Gray of Wilton) marched to Honiton in the West, where they beat those rebels.

In 1545 and 1553 a mint was established in the castle, and the church plate seized at the dissolution was coined there, and a printing press set up.

In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, Sir John Stafford, Knight, was by her Majesty (as a reward of his valour) granted the constableship of Bristol castle, in which office he continued a long time; he was also one of the band of gentlemen pensioners during the space of 47 years to the Queen and King James the 1st. he died on the 28th of September Anno Dom. 1605, and was buried with his ancestors on the North side of the communion table in the church of the Virgin Mary in the town of Thornbury in the county of Gloucester, where his monument gives the above account, which has this inscription on it: "Heere lieth the body of Sir John Stafford, Knight, a gentleman pensioner, during the space of 47 years to Queen Elizabeth, and King James, hee had as a reward of his valour and fidelity, conferred upon him by her Matie the constableship of Bristol castle, where hee continued a long time. Hee lived (as himselfe on his death bed confessed) in the frail and slippery course of a foldier, and a courtier, from the time of his manhood neere unto the time of his death; notwithstanding sensible of his end and that account hee was to give at the last day, hee did fully and freely forgive all men sealing the same by calling for and receiving the blessed sacrament as a pledge of his forgiving other men and of the forgiveness of his own sins; for whatsoever the frailty of his life or bitterness of the disease whereof he died might be, his hope of a better life through the mercies and sufferings of his Redeemer, made him a conquerour over and beyond those humane frailties. Hee dying in the sound faith of a penitent sinner, a loyal servant to his Prince, a lover of his country, wherein he did beare the chiefest offices of trust and credit, and a founder of an almshouse in the parish where he lived, endowing  
the



the same with 10 pounds per annum to be paid for ever, obiit 28<sup>o</sup> die Septemb A<sup>o</sup> Dni. 1624.

In cujus memoriam et veritatis hujus testimonium nepos ejus Sciens videns que hoc monumentum posuit hac fretus spe votoque inquiens ;

Non aliter cineres mando Jacere meos."

Arms or rather the crest, though it is in a shield, gules a wolf's head or. and the Stafford knot or.

In the year 1602, 6th of March a petition was presented to the privy council from the mayor and commonalty of the city of Bristol, complaining that Sir John Stafford, Knight, keeper of his Majesty's castle of Bristol, being seldom or never resident there, but leaving a mean and unworthy deputy in his stead hath of late time suffered many poor and indigent people, to the number of 49 families consisting of about 240 persons, to inhabit within the said castle, who for the most part are persons of lewd life and conversation and in no way able to relieve themselves but by begging and stealing to the great annoyance of the citizens, the rather for that the said castle being exempted from the liberties of the city though it standeth within the body of the same, doth serve for a refuge and receptacle of malefactors as well of the city as others that fly thither to escape justice : it was thought and ordered to the petitioners humble request, that for avoiding the present inconvenience and preventing the like for the future, the Lord High Treasurer of England and Chancellor of the Exchequer calling the said John Stafford before them, should take order for removing the persons then residing in the said castle unto such places where they last dwelt, and also that there be not hereafter any more admitted to inhabit there, but only such as Sir John Stafford will undertake for their sufficiency and good behaviour, to the end the city be not further charged or molested by them, or his Majesty's castle pestered with any such base cottagers or scandalous inmates.

By a charter bearing date the 13th of April the 5th of King Charles the 1st. 1630, the said King grants to the mayor, burgesses and commonalty of the city of Bristol, all that his castle of Bristol, (as the ancient demesne and parcel of the possessions of the crown of England,) with its walls, ditches, banks, houses, buildings, courts, orchards, gardens, waters, water-courses, lands, &c. within the circuit or precincts thereof. And in consideration that the situation thereof was 30 miles from the city of Gloucester, but contiguous to the city of Bristol ; and by reason that no justice of the peace for the county of Gloucester lived near the said castle to inhabit, and that the officers of the city of Bristol having no authority within the same, as not being a part of the said city,



city, whereinto many thieves, malefactors, and other disorderly livers within the precincts of the said castle have fled, and from thence have escaped from the hands of justice; all which being considered, the King did ordain and grant that from henceforth the same should be separated from the county of Gloucester, and made a part of the city and county of Bristol and in all respects to be subject to the same powers as that of the said city; and that all the inhabitants of the castle be made free-men of Bristol, and that from henceforth no officer of the county of Gloucester should have any power or authority therein; the King reserving his right to all his tenants dwelling within the said castle as his demesne or parcel of the possessions of his crown.

By one other charter bearing date at Westminster the 26th of October in the 6th year of the said King, 1631,\* he in consideration of the sum of 959*l.* by the mayor or burgeses and commonalty of the city of Bristol paid into the Exchequer at Westminster, which was acknowledged in full discharge for ever of all that grant made by the said King to the said mayor, &c. of all his castle of Bristol with all its rights, members, and appurtenances whatsoever, in reversion of three lives of John, Gillian, and Nathaniel Brewster, granted to Francis Brewster the 23d of August in the 2d year of the reign of King Charles the 1st. 1626, or for 80 years if the said three lives should so long live, under the yearly rent of 100*l.*

In September 1634 the city purchased of John Brewster his estate and one life more to come of the castle, with the lands, tenements and appurtenances for 520*l.* which was presently paid him, all which was granted to the city in fee farm at 40*l.* per ann. rent for the same by the King in recompence of charges for billeting soldiers, transporting them to Ireland, and fitting out ships against the pirates. It was by application to the Queen and her intercession with the King this grant was obtained. The city had spent 1100*l.* in billeting the soldiers.

The premises particularly specified in reversion in the above charter are, viz. the castle of Bristol, the mansion-house within the same, and all that close lying without the ditch of the castle called by the name of the King's Orchard, containing two acres, and all that parcel of land called the Inner Green; and those tenements (which then amounted to 53) within the precincts, site, compass, or circuit of the said castle, with all that wood-yard there with its appurtenances, and all and singular the houses, buildings, structures, barns, stables, dove-houses, orchards, gardens, lands, tenements, cottages, halls, chambers,

\* After this grant in the same year 1631, a new armoury was built in the castle of Bristol.





chambers, shops, cellars, follars, entries, outgoings, ways, paths, void places, easements, fruits, waters, water-courses, wharfs, profits, commodities, advantages, emoluments and hereditaments whatsoever thereto belonging, excepting out of this grant all advowsons of churches, hospitals and chapels, and other ecclesiastical benefits, and all knights fees belonging to the said premises, with all mines of lead, tin, or other mines-royal whatsoever, thereto belonging : all which are granted to the said mayor &c. and their successors for ever to be held from him the King, and his heirs and successors, as of his manor of East Greenwich in the county of Kent, by fealty only, in fee and common socage and not in capite, nor by knights service ; yielding yearly to the said King and his heirs and successors a fee-farm rent of 40*l.* of lawfull money to be paid into the exchequer at Westminster &c.

All within the castle precincts granted by King Charles the 1*st.* was confirmed to the said mayor &c. in the 16*th* year of the reign of King Charles the 2*d.* dated 22*d* of April 1664, being after the happy restoration.\*

At the beginning of the unnatural rebellion against King Charles the 1*st.* the magistrates of the city of Bristol thought it necessary to repair the fortifications of their castle and the walls of the city, which was done accordingly by the 23*d* of October 1642, and also to build at the citizens expence a fort on Brandon-hill, with a communication to another fortification on St. Michael's-hill, which was afterwards turned into a royal pentagonal fort (commonly called the royal fort ;) see the plate : from this was a communication to another fortification called Colston's mount, (from his having the command thereof and being also deputy governor of the city and castle.)

Lord Paulet sent Sir Ferdinando Gorges with Mr. Smyth of Ashton to get leave to bring in certain troops of horse into Bristol, but the mayor Richard Aldworth refused, having received express orders from the King it was said to receive no forces on his side or the parliaments, but to keep and defend the city for his Majesty's use. Sir Alexander Popham sent 500 horse to Bedminster intending to lodge them in Bristol to make up 1000 on the parliament's behalf, but the corporation then refused him, and set the train bands to watch and ward as well without the gates as within to keep out all strange forces by night and by day, 100 at least armed with pikes and musquets and ball. The gates and portcullises were repaired and made strong with great chains hanged up within them, and great strong rails full of

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\* The office of keeper of King's-wood forest, and of the forest of Filwood, was granted by the said King to Colonel Humphry Cook, in 1660.—See Sir Robert Atkyns History of Gloucestershire, p. 493.



long iron spikes without every gate, so that no horses could pass by or over them. The castle was likewise repaired within with many forts on the walls to plant ordnance on them for defence, the great tower was likewise well repaired with the battlements where they were decayed at the top: the old walls of the tower by the approbation of workmen were found very strong, which caused them to mount great ordnance on the top of the tower to scower the hills far about. Some elms in the marsh were cut down to make carriages for great ordnance and within were two pieces of great ordnance planted, with gunners to attend them at need.

After this came Colonel Effex towards the city with an army, horse and foot on behalf of the parliament, which the city intended to keep out, and for two days the gates were double warded for resistance. The magistrates besides their old store of munition of which they were well provided, procured 300 new musquets made to furnish the train bands and others that wanted. The third day which was the 5th December 1642, notice came of the approach of Colonel Effex's army from Berkley and Thornbury, the citizens presently arrayed themselves for defence, the mayor and all the council were at the Tolley, studying how best to preserve the city for his Majesty's service, but in the midst of their good endeavours came the mayor's wife and many women more with her with petitions to receive in the parliament's army, and so disturbed the council with their importunities, that the women prevailed and procured the gates to be opened to the great grief of the commons prepared to fight in defence of their liberty. This wicked council our mayor and aldermen payed soundly for afterwards. The 30th of December Sir Alexander Popham went to Exeter with one thousand men. Lord Paulet being denied entrance into Bristol, marched to Wells and westward, and having sustained some loss there and at Sherborne embarked at Minchhead for Cardiff where his son-in-law T. Smyth, Esq; of Alliton died, and his corpse was brought over to be buried where he was born.

The turbulent and the disaffected to the King, began now to be very clamorous, and some of the magistrates it is said, (under hand) had no great objection to the parliament cause. Those that were immediately concerned were the right worshipful Richard Aldworth then mayor, and Joseph Jackson, and Hugh Brown Esqrs. the sheriffs; when in the beginning of December the two regiments of foot were admitted, Colonel Effex their commander immediately took upon him the government of the castle of Bristol. Those citizens that were loyalists and would not declare for the rebels, began to feel the weight of their oppressions; in so much that at length it became very dangerous



dangerous for them to walk the streets, or if found without the city they were sent prisoners either to Taunton or Berkley castles. With such despotick power did the rebels behave; that Colonel Essex, offended at one of his soldiers for modestly asking for his pay, instantly shot him through the head.

From this time the castle was governed by various masters. On the 16th of February 1642-3, five troops of horse and five companies of foot entered the city, commanded by Col. Nath. Fiennes, Col. Popham, and Clement Walker, &c. And the 27th they were followed by Sir Edward Hungerford's forces, and the castle was now made a garrison for the parliament, and fortifications added to it. Soon after these gentlemen came to the city, Col. Essex was made a prisoner; and Fiennes was appointed governor of the city and castle. In consequence of this, an oppressive tax was laid upon the citizens, to pay the rebel forces &c. which amounted to the sum of 55*l.* 15*s.* per week,\* assessed on their lands, goods, money at interest, and stock in trade; this levy laid on every man's property, was to last for three months, or till the King's troops were disbanded, which was confirmed by the rebel parliament; and the first payment was to begin on the 1st of March following; this ordinance extended over the kingdom where the rebel army had any power.† The standing committee appointed for this occasion were Robert Aldworth then mayor, Joseph Jackson, and Hugh Brown the sheriffs, Richard Holworthy, alderman, Luke Hodges, and Henry Gibbs. The power these had in conjunction with the officers of the army, viz. Cols. Fiennes, Popham, Walker, &c. was great, and produced many acts of oppression. In March, 1643, an association of some of the principal inhabitants of this city, was entered into, for letting into the city Prince Rupert with some of his Majesty's forces then at Durdham Down ready to their aid: but before it could be put in execution the design was discovered by some tattling females active on the parliament's side the night before; which was on the 7th instant, and two of the principals who had his Majesty's commission for so doing, were taken into custody, viz. Robert Yeomans, Esq; one of the last year's sheriffs, and Mr. George Boucher, a wealthy merchant; who experienced the greatest cruelties at the hands of the rebels; chained by their necks and feet in a dismal dungeon within the castle for twelve weeks, during which time they were deprived of the liberty of seeing or speaking with their nearest relations, or any other acquaintance; confined in the dark without the

See 2

benefit

\* See Rushworth's Colls. from p. 932 to 934.

† In Fiennes Letters to Mr. John Gunning, par. of Bristol, his demand was 200*l.* of him by the bearer, which was his man Ralph Hooker, on pain of military discipline.



benefit of fire or candle, with slender diet and pining grief extremely emaciated, at length they were brought to their trials before a court-martial at the house of Mr. Robert Rogers at the bridge end: where they received sentence to be hanged. \* In pursuance of which they were brought from the castle on the 30th of May, 1643, to the place of execution, which was in Wine-street, near the Guard-house; many persons were struck down for praying for them; nay they were denied the Rev. Mr. Towgood and Mr. Standfast, two of the Church of England divines, to assist them with their prayers; instead of whom were substituted three of the most violent and notorious schismatics they could choose out of Bristol, viz. Cradock, Rosewell, and Fowler, who instead of comforting them in their last moments reviled them, charging them with hypocrisy and apostacy, to the moment they were turned off the ladder. † About this time Walter Stephens, a leader amongst the rebels, demolished the Virgin Mary's chapel on Bristol bridge: and on the 17th of July 1643, Governor Fiennes gave orders to demolish St. Peter and St. Philip's churches; but this happily was prevented on the 22d inst. by Prince Rupert's appearing with 20,000 men to attack the city, which he did on the 24th in six different parts; which obliged Fiennes to draw forth his forces out of the castle, consisting of 2500 foot and a regiment of horse and dragoons: he divided them into six bodies to defend the walls of the city. — However on the 26th Colonel WASHINGTON found means to force a passage through the hollow way betwixt Brandon-hill and Windmill forts (secure from the shot) to Fromm-gate, but with the loss of about 500 of the King's forces, that were killed by the rebels out of the windows of their houses. At length Fiennes ordered a parley to be beat, ‡ when it was agreed on the 27th instant that the garrison with divers citizens should march out of the city; on which Prince Rupert became governor of the city and castle.

The following is a true relation of the taking of Bristol, in a letter from an eye witness to the governor of Oxford, July 30, 1643. (British Museum, pamph. fol. sheets, No. 3.)

“ At

\* In May, 1643, Fiennes had of the King's friends then prisoners in the castle, Sir Walter Pye, Sir William Crofts, knights, and Colonel Connesby, &c.”

† See *Mercurius Rusticus*, or the Countries Complaint, printed 1648. See also a little pamphlet published on the occasion, where a very explicit account is given of the most barbarous usage, unjustly inflicted on these suffering gentlemen, extended even to their young families after their death. In a pardon granted by Charles 1st. to the mayor, burgesses, and commonalty of Bristol, dated 4th Feb. 19th of his reign, 1633: Nathaniel Fiennes, Richard Cole, Walter White, Thomas and Richard Hippisley, Robert Baugh, and Herbert, late provost marshal at Bristol, were excepted, being actors or advisers and assistants in the above detestable murder.

‡ Vide *State Trials*, vol. i.





“ At the assault of Bristol the outworks were very strong, and cost near 500 common men's lives on the King's side. Colonel Herbert Lunsford was slain, and the Lord Viscount Grandison shot and Master Bellasis wounded in the head by his own sword, which was struck to his head by a musket when they rushed in upon the works: neither of them in any great danger. It was the hottest service that ever was in this kingdom since the war began. In his Majesty's army there are at least 14000 armed men. The city was surrendered on Wednesday upon this condition;—That the commanders were permitted to ride out with their swords, and the common men to march out with their sticks in their hands, so many as were pleased to go; but at least 1000 of the garrison soldiers very willingly remain in the castle to serve his Majesty. Colonel Fiennes marched out without molestation or hurt, who attempted before to escape; but was stopped by the seamen, who are his Majesty's friends. The Royalists found in the city 1700 barrels of gunpowder, with match and bullets proportionable, 60 brass pieces of good ordnance, and all the arms, 18 good ships in the river belonging to merchants, and 4 ships belonging to the Earl of Warwick, that came lately to relieve it, which have good store of ammunition in them. The city gives 1400*l.* by way of composition, to save them from being plundered; upon which his Majesty hath sent a proclamation strictly to prevent it, that it shall be death for any soldier to plunder. Sir Arthur Ashton came post to Oxford on Friday to inform his Majesty of the state of things there. Upon which the council of war and council of state agreed to send away Sir John Pennington speedily to Bristol, to have the command of the ships, and a proclamation to all mariners that are willing to serve the King to this effect, that they shall have their pardon who have served under the Earl of Warwick, and also their pay that is due from him presently paid at Bristol, and his Majesty's pay and his favour for the future.

Informations of the 31<sup>st</sup> July were,

Bristol taking,

Exeter shaking,

Gloucester quaking.

The report is that Bristol is to pay but 50,000*l.* in money for composition, but that they are also to cloath 1500 of the King's soldiers according to their quality: common men 3*l.* a suit, and gentlemen and commanders 6*l.* which amounts to 140,000*l.* There was found in the castle of Bristol 100,000*l.* as is reported.”

The day before the city was taken all the family plate of John Harrington, Esq; of Kelson, was for security removed into Bristol castle, among which was  
a large



a large golden font, in which Sir John Harrington (afterwards a very ingenious poet) was christened; a present from Queen Elizabeth, his godmother. His house had been plundered several times: he is said to have been the only one of that family ever tinctured with disloyal principles. Prince Rupert with part of the forces, consisting of 900 horse, 2500 foot, and 1500 auxiliaries, having now possession of the city, his Majesty Charles 1st. with Prince Charles and the Duke of York, came hither on the 3d of August, where the King during his stay lodged at Mr. Collton's house in Small-street; and he extended his most gracious pardon to many of his inveterate enemies, for which they afterwards made a most ungrateful return, joining afterwards the rebels, who under Fairfax and Cromwell, having gained some advantages in the West, determined to lay siege to and retake Bristol, of which the following is the particular relation given by themselves.

"After reducing Sherborn, Bristol being considered as the only considerable port the King had in the whole kingdom for shipping, trade, and riches, and also a magazine for all sorts of ammunition and provisions, it was resolved to march thither for reducing that city. Two thousand horse were sent before, under Commissary-General Ireton, to preserve the towns adjacent to Bristol from plunder and firing, for the better accommodation of our quarters; and advice was sent to Vice-Admiral Capt. Moulton, riding about Milford-haven, to send ships into Kingroad to block up Bristol by sea, as this army intended to do by land. Thursday, August 21. General Fairfax and Lieutenant-General Cromwell went and viewed the town, which was now approached; appointed guards and quarters on the west side of the river, and quartered themselves at Kainsham that night, where divers lords sent for passes to come out of the city to go beyond sea, but were all denied. Friday 22. A general rendezvous of horse; all this day spent in setting guards on Somerset side, where the country men maintained a passage, the head quarters being this day removed to Hanham. Saturday 23. Fairfax and Cromwell employed the whole day in settling the quarters and guards on the other side Bristol. The cannon played this day from the great fort and Prior's-hill fort, but hurt none but one dragoon, who had his thigh shot off. The Royalists also sallied out with a party of horse, but were drove back, when Sir Richard Crane was mortally wounded. The head quarters removed to Stapleton. August 24. the Lord's day. A sally out of the sally port near Prior's-hill fort, repulsed by Colonel Rainborough's brigade and horse. Tuesday 26. A third sally on Somerset side on a post of Colonel Welden's, at Bedminster, 10 killed and as many wounded. Sir Bernard Ashley, a royalist, taken and died a few days after



after of his wounds. Thursday 28. The fort of Portishead point, after four days siege, taken with 6 pieces of ordnance, by which means a communication was laid open with the ships in Kingroad. Friday 29. A fast observed by the army to seek God for a blessing upon the designs against Bristol: Mr. Del and Mr. Peters kept the day at the head quarters, but were disturbed by a fall about noon upon the quarters at Lawford's-gate; 3 or 4 soldiers taken. Sunday, August 31. Captain Moulton from Kingroad held a meeting with the General, and offered to assist storming the city with his seamen. Monday, September 1. Prince Rupert with 1000 horse and 600 foot sallied out about twelve at noon the sixth time in full career upon our horse guards with much fierceness, and were made to retreat very hastily; Captain Guiliams killed and Colonel Okey taken by Prince Rupert. Orders given to view the line and works, and the soldiers to make faggots and all fitting preparations for a storm. September 2. After a council of war held, it was determined to storm Bristol; and the manner was referred to a committee of the colonels to present in writing to the General the next morning, to be debated in a general council of war, which was agreed to be in the following manner: Colonel Welden with his brigade of four regiments were to storm in three places on Somersets side, 200 men in the middle, 200 on each side as forlorn hopes to begin the storm; 20 ladders to each place, two men to carry each a ladder at 5s. apiece, two serjeants to attend each ladder at 20s. each; each of the musketry that followed the ladder to carry a faggot, a serjeant to command them, and to have the same reward; 12 files of men with fire arms and pikes to follow the ladders to each place where the storm was to be, those to be commanded each by a captain and lieutenant, the latter to go before with 5 files, the captain to second him with the other 7; the 200 men appointed to second the storm to furnish each party of them 20 pioneers who were to march in their rear, the 200 men commanded each by a field officer, and the pioneers each by a serjeant; (those pioneers were to throw down the line to make way for the horse,) the party that was to make good the line to possess the guns and turn them; a gentleman of the ordnance, gunners and mattrasses to enter with the parties, the drawbridge to be let down, two regiments and a half to storm in after the foot, if way was made: much after this manner was the general brigade under Colonel Montague's command, consisting of the General's, Col. Montague's, Col. Pickering's, and Sir Hardress Waller's regiments to storm on both sides Lawford's-Gate, both to the river Avon and the lesser river Frome, the bridge over Frome to be made good against horse with pikes or to break it down. Colonel Rainborough's brigade, consisting of his own, Major

General



General Skippon's, Col. Hammond's, Col. Birche's, and Lieut. Col. Pride's regiments to storm on this side the Froom, beginning at the right hand of the Sallyport up to Prior's-hill fort, and to storm the fort itself as the main business; 200 of this brigade to go up in boats with the seamen to storm Waterfort (if it could be attempted:) one regiment of horse and a regiment of foot to be moving up and down in the closes before the royal fort and to ply hard upon it to alarm it, with a field officer to command them: the regiment of dragoons with two regiments of horse to carry ladders with them and to attempt the line of works by Clifton and WASHINGTON's breach.

Such was the manner of the storm agreed on, though alterable according to circumstances; the cannon baskets were ordered to be filled, seamen and boats sent for, and September 4th being Thursday, the weather which had been so extrem wet before, began to alter, and the great guns began to play from the new battery against Prior's-fort; summons were also sent to Prince Rupert.

To Prince R U P E R T.

S I R,

"FOR the service of the Parliament I have brought their own army before the city of Bristol and do summon you in their names to render it, with all the forts belonging to the same, into my hands for their use. — Having used this plain language, as the business requires, I wish it may be as effectual with you as it is satisfactory to myself, that I do a little expostulate with you about the surrender of the same; which I confess is a way not common and which I should not have so used, but in respect to a person of such fort, and in such a place: I take into consideration your royal birth and relation to the crown of England, your honour, courage, all the virtues of your person, and the strength of that place, which you may think yourself bound and able to maintain. Sir, the crown of England is and will be where it ought to be, we fight to maintain it there; but the King misled by evil counsellors, or through a seduced heart has left his parliament and people, (under God the best assurance of his crown and family:) the maintaining of this schism is the ground of this unhappy war on your part; and what sad effect it hath produced in the three kingdoms is visible to all men. To maintain the rights of the crown and kingdom jointly; the principal part is, that the King in supreme acts concerning the whole state, is not to be advised by men of whom the law takes no notice but by the parliament, the great council of the nation, in whom (as much as man is capable of) he hears all his people as it were at once advising him, and in which multitude of counsellors lies his safety and his people's interest.





interest. To set him right in this hath been the constant and faithful endeavour of the parliament; and to bring those wicked instruments to justice that have misled him is a principal ground of our fighting. Sir, if God makes this clear to you, as he hath to us, I doubt not but he will give you an heart to deliver this place, notwithstanding all the considerations of honor, courage and fidelity, &c. because their consistency and use in the present business depends upon the right or wrongfulness of what has been said. And if upon such conviction you should surrender the city, and save the loss of blood and hazard of spoiling such a place, it would be an act glorious in itself, and joyful to us, for the restoring you to the endeared affections of the parliament and people of England, the truest friends to your family it hath in the world. But if this be hid from your eyes, and so great, so famous, and so ancient a city, so full of people be exposed through your wilfulness in putting us to force the same to the ruin and extremity of war, (which yet we shall in that case as much as possible endeavour to prevent,) then I appeal to the righteous God to judge between you and us, and to requite the wrong; and let all England judge whether to burn its towns, and ruin its cities, and destroy its people, be a good requital from a person of your family which have had the prayers, tears, money, and blood of this parliament; and, if you look on either as now divided, both ever had the same party in parliament, and among the people most zealous for their assistance and restitution; which you now oppose and seek to destroy; and whose constant grief hath been that their desire to serve your family hath been ever hindered, and made fruitless by that same party about his Majesty whose councils you act and whose interest you pursue in this unnatural war. I expect your speedy answer to this summons by the return of the bearer this evening, and am,

Your Highness humble servant,

Sept. 4, 1645.

THO. FAIRFAX."

# A N S W E R.

S I R,

"I Received your's by your trumpet, and desire to know if you will give me leave to send a messenger to the King, to know his pleasure therein. I am,

Your servant,

R U P E R T."

# R E P L Y.

S I R,

"YOUR overture of sending to his Majesty to know his pleasure, I cannot give way to, nor admit of so much delay as that would require; wherefore  
F b thereby



thereby I cannot but understand your intention intimated not to surrender without his Majesty's consent, yet, because it is but implicit, I send again to know more clearly if you have any more positive answer to give from yourself, which I desire to receive; and which I desire may be such as may render me capable to approve myself,

Your Highness humble servant,

Sept. 5, 1645.

THO. FAIRFAX."

Whereupon his Highness after a council of war was held sent 17 propositions, that during a treaty he might strengthen the works within, and hear from the King; and had he consented to the demands, a confirmation by parliament would have been required, which protraction of time was designed for the advantage of the besieged. In answer to this Sir Thomas Fairfax proposed three commissioners, Colonels Ireton, Fleetwood and Pickering, to conclude a treaty, provided such treaty be ended by nine o'clock that night, dated 7th Sept. 1645. But the Prince still willing to delay desires him to set down his doubts and exceptions to the propositions in writing to which he would give a speedy answer, dated the same day, which occasioned another letter with 20 propositions from Fairfax, asserting his tenderness of the city and of the effusion of blood, &c. dated Stapleton 8th Sept. 1645. In this Prince Rupert finding omissions in several clauses, and some wholly left out, sent a letter the same day, insisting upon all the forts and lines, except the castle, to be sleighted and demolished, when he would send commissioners to regulate and settle things between them; but Fairfax in a letter dated the 9th Sept. 1645, insisted on his propositions and would admit of no farther delay, to which his Highness would not consent.

The 6th of September every thing prepared for the storm; the General in the field and the soldiers ready with faggots at their backs, but the business deferred till Monday morning two o'clock. The 9th Sept. trumpet returning with unsatisfactory answer, at twelve o'clock at night the General was in the field to give orders about drawing out the men and managing the storm the next morning. The 10th Sept. at two in the morning the signal was given to fall on at one instant round the city by setting fire to some straw and faggots at the top of an hill, and the firing four great guns against Prior's-hill fort, from the place the General was to reside at all the time of the storm, being an old small farm-house opposite the Prior's-hill fort, conveniently lying upon any alarm. — The signal being given, the storm immediately began round the city and was terrible to the beholders. Colonel Montague and Col. Pickering  
with



with their regiments at Lawford's-gate entered speedily, and recovered 22 great guns, and took many prisoners in the works; Major Desborough advancing with the horse after them, having the command of the General's regiment, and part of Col. Groves's. Sir Hardresse Waller's, and the General's regiments, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Jackson, entered between Lawford's-gate and the river Froom; Col. Rainborough's and Col. Hamond's regiments entered near Prior's fort; Major General Skippon's and Col. Birche's entered nearer to the river Froom; and the regiment commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Pride was divided, part assigned to the service of Prior's fort, and the rest to alarm the great fort, and afterwards they took a little fort of Welchmen. The seamen that were at first designed to storm by water (the tide failing) assisted in storming the line and works, the horse that entered here, (besides the forlorn hope,) so valiantly led on by Capt. Ireton, were in several parties commanded by Major Bethel, Major Alford, and Adjutant General Flemming, being of Colonel Whalye's, Col. Riche's and part of Col. Graves's regiments. And after the line was broke down by the pioneers and a gap made in the same, the horse with undaunted courage entered, and within the line met with a party of the enemy's horse, put them to a retreat, mortally wounded Col. Taylor (formerly member of the house of commons) of which wounds he died, and took divers prisoners. This so disheartened their horse (perceiving withal our foot to be master of the line and their men beaten off) that they never came on again to give one charge, but retreated and stood in a body under the favor of the great fort and Colston's fort. In the mean while Prior's-hill fort obstinately held out, playing fiercely with great and small shot on our men for two hours after the line was entered; our men all that time in like manner plying them hard with musket shot in at the port-holes, until they brought up ladders to the fort; but it being an high work many of the ladders proved too short, through which fault some that got up were beaten down again. Notwithstanding, this disheartened them not, but up they went again upon the greatest danger and disadvantage, some at last creeping in at the port-holes, and others got on the top of the works; Capt. Lagoe of Lieutenant Colonel Pride's regiment being the first man that laid hold on the colours, and in the end we forced the enemy within to run below into the inner rooms of the work, hoping to receive quarter, but our soldiers were so little prepared to shew mercy, by the opposition that they met withal in the storm, and the refusal of quarter when it was offered, that they put to the sword the commander (one Major Price who was a Welchman) and almost all the officers, soldiers and others in the



fort, except a few which at the entreaty of our officers were spared their lives. Most happy it was that the storm began so early, for otherwise had the enemy had daylight when we first entered, we could not have attempted Prior's-hill fort, in regard the great fort and Colston's fort on the one side and the castle on the other might have cut off all our men as fast as they had been drawn up, but being in the dark they durst not fire for fear of killing their own men, their horse during the storm being drawn up between the great fort and Colston's fort: but on Somerset side success was not answerable to this on this side, our forces there being put to a retreat though they went on with much courage; the works on that side were so high that the ladders could not near reach them, and the approach unto the line of great disadvantage. Left during the storm the Prince (in case he saw the town like to be lost) should endeavour to escape with his horse, to prevent the same Commissary General Ireton's, Col. Butler's and Col. Fleetwood's regiments of horse were appointed to be in a moving body upon Durdham-Down, that place being the most open way and most likely for the Prince to escape by; besides part of those horse did alarm that side of the line and the great fort towards Durdham-Down and Clifton during the storm; as likewise to secure the foot, Col. Okey's dragoons alarming Brandon-Hill fort and the line towards Clifton. — About four hours after taking Prior's-hill fort a trumpet came from the Prince to desire a parley, which the General embraced on account of the city's being set on fire in several places, and on condition of the fire being immediately stopt: which was done accordingly, and so the treaty proceeded, and by seven at night was concluded according to articles.

I. That his Highness Prince Rupert, and all noblemen, officers, gentlemen, and soldiers, and all other persons whatsoever, now residing in the city of Bristol, and in the castle and forts thereof, shall march out of the said city and castle and forts with colours, drums, pikes, bag and baggage. The Prince his Highness, gentlemen, and officers in commission, with their horse and arms, and their servants with their horse and swords, and common soldiers with their swords, the Prince's life guard of horse with their horse and arms, and 250 horse besides to be disposed of by the Prince, and his life guard of firelocks with their arms, with each of them a pound of powder and a proportion of bullet; and that none of the persons, who are to march out under this article, are to be plundered, searched, or molested.

II. That such officers and soldiers that shall be left sick or wounded, in the city, castle, or forts, shall have liberty to stay till their recovery, and then have safe conduct to go to his Majesty, and in the interim to be protected.





III. That such persons abovementioned, who are to march away, shall have sufficient convoy provided for them to such garrison of the King's as the Prince shall name, not exceeding fifty miles from Bristol, and shall have eight days allowed them to march thither, and shall have free quarter by the way, and shall have two officers to attend them for their accommodation, and twenty waggons for their baggage, if they shall have occasion to use them.

IV. That all the citizens of Bristol, and all noblemen, gentlemen, clergymen, and all other persons, residing in the said city and suburbs, shall be saved from all plunder and violence, and be secured in their persons and estates from the violence of the soldiers, and shall enjoy those rights and privileges, which other subjects enjoy under the protection and obedience to the Parliament.

V. That in consideration thereof, the city of Bristol, with the castle and all other forts and fortifications thereof, and all the ordnance, arms, ammunition, and all other furniture and provisions of war, excepting what is before allowed, shall be delivered up to Sir Thomas Fairfax to-morrow, being Thursday, the 11th of this instant September, by one o'clock in the afternoon, without any diminution or embezzlement, his Highness Prince Rupert then naming to what army or garrison of the King's he will march.

VI. That none of the army, who are to march out on this agreement, shall plunder, hurt, or spoil the town, or any person in it, or carry any thing but what is properly his own.

VII. That upon these articles being signed, Colonel Okey and all persons now in prison in the city of Bristol and the castle and forts of the same shall immediately be set at liberty.

VIII. That sufficient hostages be given to Sir Thomas Fairfax, such as he shall approve this night, who are to remain with him until the city be delivered.

IX. That neither the convoy or officers sent with the Prince shall receive any injury in their going and coming back, and shall have seven days allowance for their return.

X. That upon delivering of the town, sufficient hostages be given for the performance of the articles on both parts.

Signed by us, Commissioners on the behalf of his Highness Prince Rupert,

JOHN MYNNE,

W. TILLYER,

W. VAVASOUR.

Signed by us, Commissioners on the behalf of Sir Thomas Fairfax,

ED. MONTAGUE,

T. RAINSBOROUGH,

JOHN PICKERING.

While



While Sir Thomas Fairfax and the Lieutenant-General Oliver Cromwell were both sitting on the top of Prior's-hill fort, a piece of ordnance was shot off thither from the castle, and the bullet grazed upon the fort within two hands breadth of them, but did them no hurt at all; so narrow was their escape.

In the storm several of the Parliament officers both horse and foot were killed, and many wounded. Major Bethel was shot entering the line, of which wound he shortly after died, &c.

Thursday, September 11, Prince Rupert marched out of the great fort, as also many ladies and gentlemen. Oliver Cromwell, Lieutenant-General, sent the Parliament a long account of the taking Bristol, calling it "the work of the Lord, which none but an Atheist could deny," and that "140 cannon were taken, 100 barrels of powder, &c. with the loss of only about 200 men."

This was a very important acquisition to the rebel leaders both in the army and the Parliament, and as great a loss and injury to the King's affairs.

Prince Rupert incurred a severe censure from the King, and though he was solicited to enter into treaty by his officers and a council of war, who thought the posts and city not tenable any longer; yet the King's friends were so dissatisfied with the Prince's behaviour, that it drew from him a public vindication of his conduct; and as the former account is the representation of the rebels, it will be proper to subjoin Prince Rupert's own account of the matter, extracted from a pamphlet called, *a Declaration and Narrative of the State of the Garrison and of the City of Bristol*, published 1645.

"On Prince Rupert's coming to Bristol, the constitution of the garrison had by the establishment contributions settled for 3600 men for that and the subordinate garrisons, as Nunney, Portfend Point, &c. but on his exacter enquiry, the presidialry foldiers which went for 8 or 900 men were really in the judgment of honest and judicious persons betwixt 5 or 600 effective; the auxiliary and trained bands by interruption of trade and by the pestilence then raging there and by poverty and pressures laid upon them were reduced to 800, and the mariners betook themselves to other parts or the enemy. The commissioners intrusted for the contribution and support of the garrison abandoned the town upon the enemy's approach, and many considerable persons had leave to quit the town, which disheartened the rest. For securing the place his Highness drew in so many as to make 2800 men upon sight. But after the enemy approached, he could never draw up on the line 1500, and it was impossible to keep them from getting over the works, and many of those were new levied Welch and unexperienced men. The line to be defended was above four miles



miles in compass, the breast-work low and thin, the graff very narrow and of no depth, and by the opinion of all the colonels not tenable, on a brisk and vigorous assault. The great fort, which had the reputation of strength, lay open to Brandon-hill fort, which if taken would from its height with the cannon command the whole plain within it, and the want of water was not to be borne many days. For the like consideration of danger to the line from another part, his Highness built a reboubt without, which on that side prevented the enemy from erecting a battery, as likewise three others during the siege, and drew a line of 500 foot. After the misfortune which happened to Lord Goring's army, the loss of Bridgwater and Sherborn, and upon his Majesty's sudden recess out of Wales, the Prince conceiving it would be best for his Majesty's affairs to remain here, and that the enemy's designs would be for Bristol after their former successes, he gave orders for all inhabitants to victual themselves for six months; and upon strict survey there were 2500 families then remaining in the city, whereof 1500 through indigence and want could not provide for themselves. To supply this defect, 2000 bushels of corn were imported from Wales; and on the certain approach of the enemy, all the cattle thereabouts was ordered to be drove in, by parties commanded out for that purpose. The ammunition was scant, considering there were in the forts, castle, line, and streets, above 100 cannon mounted; the quantity of powder not exceeding 130 barrels, and at his Highness's coming there was not musket balls for three hours fight, wherefore he caused great quantities of lead to be cast into bullets; and the manufacture of match was quite down, and set up by his Highness during the siege.

These preparations made the colonels of posts to be consulted about the tenableness of the line; their judgment was, that notwithstanding the works and line were very defective, the circuit large, the soldiers few; yet if a general storm could be once repelled, the enemy would be discouraged from attempting a second time, and the season of the year might incommode the besiegers. — On which account they determined upon the best general defence to be made upon the whole, wherein all might share alike.

The line was generally three feet thick; the height five feet where highest.

The graff commonly six feet broad, seven at the widest; the depth in most parts four feet, five where deepest.

Between Prior-hill fort, Stoke's-croft-gate, and beyond the little river From towards Lawford's-gate, in which places the enemy entered, not five feet high.

The graff five feet broad, and that part of the line much decayed.

The



The ditch of the great fort on the right hand of the gate, before the face of the bulwark, was not four feet deep and eighteen broad; so that horses did go up and down into it.

The highest work of the fort was not twelve feet high, the curtains but ten. Within one hundred feet of the fort there was a deep hollow way, where the enemy might lodge what troops he pleased, and might be in the graff before night; and that part of the fort was minable.

Brandon-hill fort was about twelve feet above the level of the great fort, and that not being able to make long resistance, the enemy gaining it would command the other.

The hedges and ditches without the line were neither cut nor levelled, so that they lodged their men near our works securely at their first approach.

A general defence being fixed on, the colonels were all ordered to the several posts and forts upon the line, and his Highness being solicitous for securing the place, the enemy on the 22d of August appeared on Pile-hill, on the south side of the town, he sent a party of horse commanded by Sir Richard Crane (who in that action received his death's wound) to encounter them; a little before that Bedminster was fired on intelligence that the enemy intended that night to quarter 2000 men in it, and notwithstanding the fire they drew thither and plied their small shot all night. August 23. The Prince caused a traverse or blind of earth to be made within the drawbridge at Temple-gate, and a battery raised in the Marsh for securing the river and scouring the fields beyond it. The enemy began some breast-works and a battery on the hill without Temple-gate, with a traverse across the way to hinder our sallies. — Instructions for delivering the city up to the Parliament, signed Thomas Fairfax and Oliver Cromwell, were privately sent to the citizens, August 25, 1645. Upon the intercepting these papers, his Highness caused several active and suspected persons to be restrained, which prevented the design, and by his personal presence prevented the great fort from surprisal; and in the mean time to interrupt the enemy's working made several sallies, which all succeeded according to design. August 26. Soon after a storm being expected by the enemy's drawing together great bodies of horse and foot, his Highness double manned the line, but nothing followed. August 28. Five Parliament ships entered Kingroad, and forced Captain Broom who commanded the Tenth Whelpe to run up the Severn for security. August 29. The enemy was making a bridge over the Avon to conjoin their quarters. September 3. His Highness began a work or cutting off within the line by Lawford's-gate, when Sir Thomas Fairfax sent a summons to surrender.





The castle and great fort indeed might have held out some time, but no assistance from the west nor from the King was to be relied on, and the enemy could have blocked up the castle and advanced 12,000 men to have fought a battle if required, or else have secured themselves within the lines against all opposition — besides it appeared they were so absolutely masters of all the passes, and had so barricaded up the ways that a small force might have hindered now a great army. And at that time General Pointz so closely observed his Majesty's motions, that relief was very improbably to be expected, — and Col. Massey was upon the watch to intercept Lord Goring: and as the line was forced, Pryor's-hill fort an important place lost, the officer to whose trust it was committed deserting it, (who never since that time appeared and who was said to have been killed,) the city on resistance must have been exposed to the spoil and fury of the enemy, so many gallant men who had so long and faithfully served his Majesty (whose safeties his Highness conceived himself in honor obliged to preserve as dearly as his own) had been left to the slaughter and rage of a prevailing enemy, and the Scots being on the 8th of September at Gloucester, an intermediate place near which his Majesty must have marched to the relief of Bristol, cut off all hopes of succour from him.

At a council of war held at Newark the 18th of October 1645, Prince Rupert desiring to clear himself for the surrender of the city and garrison of Bristol, before Montague Earl of Lindsey lord chamberlain, Richard Earl of Cork, Jacob Lord Ashley field marshal general, John Lord Bellasis captain of the horse guards, Charles Lord Gerrard, Sir Richard Willis, John Ashburnham Esq; treasurer at war, produced a narrative of the matter of facts during the siege, and the King was pleased to say, his said nephew was not guilty of the least want of courage or fidelity to him in the doing thereof, but withall believed he might have kept the castle and fort a longer time; the King having absolutely resolved to have drawn together all the forces he possibly could and to have hazarded his person for his relief, the design being then so laid that in all probability it would have succeeded; yet as the Prince did what was done by the advice of a council of war of that garrison, and could not have expected relief and had received no intimation from the King thereof, and had a tender regard for the preservation of so many worthy officers and soldiers that had so long and faithfully served the King, he on these reasons capitulated. — The King hearing a second time the whole matter the 21st of October, was pleased to declare that Prince Rupert was not guilty of any the least want of courage or fidelity to him, and the Lords gave the same



opinion on the point : Given at the court at Newark, the 21st Oct. 1645. — The forts, city and castle without any defacing thereof, with all arms, ammunition, &c. were delivered up Thursday the 11th of September 1645, by three o'clock in the afternoon.

The forts, city and castle being evacuated by the King's troops, the rebels found a great booty therein; 140 cannons, 100 barrels of gunpowder, provision in the royal fort (where at present the elegant seat of T. Tyndall, Esq; is built) sufficient to serve 150 men for 320 days, and the castle was victualled for near half so long, says a manuscript penes me. To increase the misfortunes of the times the plague broke out this year, of which died 3000 persons.

Philip Skippon who had been appointed governor of Bristol castle, was commissioned by the parliament in the year 1646 to carry 200000*l.* (which was half the price set upon the head of his Majesty Charles the 1st. by the Scots) into Scotland to induce them to deliver the King up into his enemies hands, which was accordingly done the 16th of February the same year.

This was the last keeper but one and governor of Bristol castle before its final demolition; he had been Major General on this occasion, of great skill and experience in military operations, which he had acquired abroad in foreign wars; and had it not been for this one man, neither the zeal or conduct of Fairfax, nor the brutal courage of Oliver Cromwell and his troops pushed on by a spirit of enthusiasm, would have succeeded in carrying the city against Prince Rupert, who was acknowledged to be a General of consummate abilities.

The castle and city being now reduced under the power of the parliament and its officers, it is a grievous unpleasing task to recite the several oppressions the citizens underwent; one would wish to throw a veil over such scenes of wanton cruelty, but historical truth obliges us to notice them here agreeable to the maxim, *ne quid falsi dicere audeat, ne quid veri non audeat.* — History records these bad effects of party rage, and of false religious zeal and love of liberty carried beyond the bounds of law, as a lesson to posterity against ever committing such outrage against the common principles of humanity under the pretence of liberty, in the sacred name of religion, and under the mask of greater piety and reformation. — Besides the heavy contributions laid on the merchants and tradesmen loyalists, informers were encouraged by an act passed the 26th of March 1644, and committees appointed in several counties to enquire after the clergy and schoolmasters not well affected to the parliament government, and to place others of their own learned, able, godly and



fit persons in their room and in possession of their churches. — Accordingly the standing committee for Bristol the 20th of February 1645-6, sequestered the Rev. Richard Towgood vicar of St. Nicholas, “for his great disaffection to the parliament of England and their proceedings,” for which he was committed to Bristol castle, where soon after the Rev. Mr. Richard Standfast rector of Christ Church, being also sequestered was confined. One Evans a preaching taylor was put into his living by the committee. The Rev. Mr. Peirce vicar of St. Philip’s was also sequestered, and one Edward Hancock, late a Butler to Sir George Horner knight, was put into his living, where he continued till the restoration of Charles the 2d. and being then removed he afterwards kept a public-house at Horfield, more agreeable to his former employment. The Rev. Mr. Brent vicar of Temple was also sequestered; and many orthodox clergy and others to the number of about 50 persons, were confined close prisoners in a dismal room in the castle, and there treated with a rigour and cruelty not to be described here — The use of the common prayer-book was by an ordinance of parliament in Oct. 1647, under penalty of fine and imprisonment for the third offence prohibited.

Let it with cool reflection be well considered, that from this polluted fountain of the rebellion 1641 have sprung the several divisions in religion among us :

Hâc fonte derivata clades in patriam populumque fluxit.

HOR.

The churches themselves as well as the pastors did not escape the rage of these merciful and meek reformers; the organs were pulled down, surplices torn to pieces, tombs defaced, the church plate stolen. By an ordinance of the 8th of August 1643, and May following, made by the Lords and Commons, order was given to demolish all monuments of idolatry and superstition, as altars, crucifixes, images, representations of the Trinity, &c. but images, pictures, coats of arms in glass or stone set up for any monument of King or nobleman, or person not reputed a saint to be continued. Cromwell’s soldiers were bad judges of this distinction, they broke most of the curious painted glass, tore away the brass, iron and lead from many monuments and defaced the inscriptions, which is to be lamented now by all lovers of antiquities, the ruin they spread in all country churches has never been repaired to this day.

The church and state being at length in a manner subverted by the murder of the King, the government of the city and castle was given by the parliament to Mr. Adrian Scroop the last keeper, after which the royal arms and motto were every where thrown down and defaced in all public places in this city.



After Oliver Cromwell was proclaimed protector orders were given for demolishing the fortifications of the castle of Bristol, which was began the 3d of January 1655 to be dismantled; and in 1656 a new road was made into the county of Gloucester through the said castle: a gate was erected 1659 called castle gate, (in 1766 removed,) before this the common road was through Newgate into the county of Gloucester.

Since the demolition of the castle two handsome streets have been built on its site, Castle-street and Castle-green; on the castle orchard without the Sally-port have risen other streets, Queen-street, &c. And Cromwell's levelling orders have been so well executed that few traces of this venerable structure are now to be seen, which has made such distinguished figure in history, and been the subject of so much contention.

King Charles the 2d. in his several journeys to conceal himself from his pursuers by the assistance of his faithful friends once passed through this city on horseback in disguise, riding before Mrs. Lane towards Leigh-manor house, drest like a country fellow before his mistress; where he lay concealed for some time and used to turn the spit in the kitchen by way of disguise: the block he sat on is preserved there to this day. — In passing through the city he could not resist an inclination of turning a little out of his way to take a view of the castle, the scene of so many interesting transactions.

In the year 1771, General Melvyl coming to Bristol, and having a great curiosity in tracing out the remains of ancient encampments and fortifications, examined the lines and entrenchments made round the city in the year 1643, the better to account for Prince Rupert whom he regarded as a great military genius, giving up the city. The author of this history gave him all the intelligence then in his power; but could have supplied him with better, had he received before a curious paper containing the several fortified posts on the line, with the number of ordnance at each, communicated to him by Edmund Turnor, Esq; of Panton house, Lincolnshire, whose ancestor \* had a commission

\* Sir Edmund Turnor was the youngest son of Christopher Turnor of Milton-Ernis, in the county of Bedford, Esq; and brother of Sir Christopher Turnor of Milton-Ernis, knight, one of the Barons of the Exchequer in the time of Charles the 2d. — At the breaking out of the civil wars he engaged in the service of the crown, and was the 4th of December 20th of Charles 1st. with a salary of 13s. 4d. a day for himself, and 3s. 4d. each for three keepers of the stores, appointed Treasurer and Paymaster of the garrison there. The 10th of February 1645 he was appointed to the command of a troop of horse. He was taken prisoner at the battle of Worcester 1651. — Anno Domini 1663 he received the honor of knighthood, and was appointed Surveyor General of the out-ports, and was one of the Farmers General of the customs. — In 1681 he received the office of High-sheriff for the county of Lincoln, where he had purchased a considerable property. — An account of his life and charities is published in Wilford's Lives of worthy persons, folio, 1741, pages 81 and 781. Likewise in Bishop Kennet's Case of impropriations.





mission from Charles the 1st. in 1644, of Treasurer of the garrisons of Bristol, Bath, the town and castle of Berkeley, Nunny castle, Farley castle, and Portthead-point:

"At the Water fort were 7 ordnance, with a master-gunner, 17s. 6d. a mate, 14s. and 3 gunners, each 10s. per week." This fort was at the point of Brandon-hill, next Limekiln-lane, fronting the Avon, above and opposite the glass-house.

"At Brandon-hill fort, ordnance 6, with a master-gunner, mate, and 2 gunners." On the very summit,

"At the great fort, ordnance 22, with a master-gunner, mate, and 6 gunners, and commissary of victuals." This was the Royal fort, now the site of the house and gardens of Thomas Tyndale, Esq;

"At the redoubt, ordnance 7, with a master-gunner, mate, and 2 gunners." This was since called Colston's mount, behind the Montague on Kingsdown,

"At Prior's-hill fort, ordnance 13, with a master-gunner, mate, and 3 gunners." This is since called Ninetree-hill.

"At Lawford's-gate, ordnance 7, with a master-gunner, mate, and 6 gunners."

"At Temple-gate, ordnance 14, with a master-gunner, mate, and 5 gunners."

"At Redcliff-gate, ordnance 15, with a master-gunner, mate, and 4 gunners."

"At the Castle and Newgate, ordnance 16, with a master-gunner, mate, 11 gunners, and commissary of victuals, at 1l. 10s. per week."

"At From-gate and Pithay-gate, ordnance 2, with 2 gunners."

This clearly shews where the strongest fortifications were; but there are no traces of the line farther than Prior's-hill, by any marks on the surface of the ground; for descending the hill from Prior's-hill fort you get into low ground, which has been filled up or built upon since that time, though the line it appears extended across by the city pest-house or lodge over the From to Lawford's-gate, thence across the Avon to Tower Harrazt and to Temple-gate, and to Redcliff-gate after the Borough-wall unto the river side, where it ended.



## C H A P. VIII.

*Of the ABBY of St. AUGUSTIN, BRISTOL; or Monastery of Black  
Regular Canons of the Order of St. VICTOR.*

THE Monks, who were the early writers, make little mention of Bristol; a place of traffick, a trading town, chiefly intent on maintaining themselves in security, and defending their habitations from any foreign invader in their well-chosen retreat, was not deemed worthy of being celebrated in their writings. Here were no religious houses then erected, no superb monasteries endowed, to entitle it to their notice. This state of the city is well described in the following little poem, said by Chatterton to be translated by Rowley, "as nie as Englyshe wyll serve, from the original, written by Abbot John, who was ynductyd 20 yeares, and dyd act as abbatt 9 yeares before hys induction for Phillip then abbatt; he dyed yn M.C.C.XV. beynge buryed in his albe in the mynster."

With \*daitive steppe Religyon dyghte in greie,

Her face of doleful hue,

Swyfte as a takel † thro'we bryght heav'n tooke her waie,

And ofte and ere anon dyd saie

"Aiè! me! what shall I doe;

"See Brystoe citie, whyche I nowe doe kenne,

"Aryfyng to mie view,

"Thycke throng'd wythe foldyers and wythe traffyck-menne;

"Butte saynctes I seen few."

Fytz-Hardyng rose! — he rose lyke bryghte sonne in the morne,

"Faire dame adryne thein eyne,

"Let alle thic greese bec myne,

For I wylle rere thee uppe a Mynster hie;

"The toppe whereof shall reech ynto the skie;

"Ande wyll a Monke be shorne;"

Thenne dyd the dame replie,

"I shall ne be forelourne;

"Here wylle I take a cherysaunied reste,

"And spend mie daies upon Fytz-Hardynge's breste."

As

\* Perhaps haitive, or haistiff, hasty, from the French haity, hasty. † Arrow.



As soon as Bristol became the seat of religion and a monastery was built there and endowed it makes some figure in the monastic history.



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*The Monastery of* ST. AUGUSTINE,  
*now the Cathedral-Church of the holy Trinity.*





As soon as Bristol became the seat of religion and a monastery was built there and endowed, it makes some figure in the monastic histories, became the subject of their pens, and is occasionally celebrated in their writings, as much as other places. This monastery of St. Augustin began to be erected in the year 1140; and it appears, that it was success in trade by which Hardyng accumulated such a fortune here as to enable the son to build and to procure the royal favour to endow this abbey.

It was built on a rising ground, with a delightful prospect of the hills around in the north-west suburb of the city and in the manor of Billeswick. The area of the buildings appropriated for the abbot and his monks was very large and extensive, as by the rule of St. Augustin, to whom it was dedicated, they were to live here together in common. The walls and part of the large refectory or dining room now converted into a prebendal house, the abbot's house now partly rebuilt and made a palace for the Bishop's residence, two sides of the cloisters with a curious chapter-house, and some old beautiful arches and gate-ways, are still to be seen. These with the church evidently demonstrate the whole to have been once a very spacious and magnificent monastery. William of Worcester, p. 188. says, "*Sanctuarium locum Sancti Augustini, &c.*" "The sanctuary-place of St. Augustin from the east, where is the entrance of the sanctuary, unto the farthest gate for entering the court of the abbot, from the offices, houses, and granaries of the bakers, brewers, stable-keepers, of my lords the abbots, &c. contains 360 steps, as you go by the church of St. Augustin. The breadth of the sanctuary from the gate aforementioned to entering the lane called Frog-lane contains 240 steps. The breadth or distance of the place from the west part of the gate of the Gautes to the gate of the entrance of the church of the abbey of St. Augustin contains across 180 steps." From this it appears it was of large extent. Leland (Itin. vol. v. p. 60.) mentions, "St. Augustine's blak chanons, extra mœnia."

In the reign of King Stephen there lived in Bristol one Harding, a rich merchant, said in some manuscripts to have dwelt in Baldwin's-street, and that he was a younger son or grandson of a King of Denmark: the inscription over the college gate-house calls him, "*filius regis Daciæ.*" Others say he was the son of Walburga, sister of Ednothus the good friend of Harold of an ancient and noble family of the Saxons, eminent in the days of Edward the Confessor, who married a daughter of the King of Denmark named Livida. Leland says, "*Hardingus ex profapia, &c.*" "Harding was sprung of the royal race of the kingdom of Denmark in the time of William the Conqueror, and inhabited Bristol in the year of our Lord 1069, made afterwards Lord of Berkeley."



Berkeley." Abbot Newland's pedigree in Berkeley castle mentions him, "as descended of the royal line of the Kings of Denmark and the youngest son; and accompanying Duke William from Normandy was at the battle of Hastings." And some say, that Harding's mother Godiva was sister to Robert Duke of Normandy's father. In the British Museum is an ancient pedigree, which gives the following account, vide No. 1196 and 1178, fol. 123, 124. "Hardinge, Dane and inhabitant and mayor of Bristol (to whom Maud the Empress gave the castle, town, and barony of Berkeley) bore for arms gules a chevron argent, was of the line of the King of Denmark, and was of great wealth and possessions in both the counties of Gloucester and Somerset; he married Lyvida, a noble woman, and had by her issue three sons and two daughters, his eldest son was Robert Fitzharding first Lord of Berkeley by gift of Henry 2d. This Robert used to seal with his father's arms alone, also with the figure of a man armed on horseback, which his son Maurice also some time used. Jordayn, the third brother of the said Robert and uncle to Maurice, sealed his deeds with an impression only of two lions endorsed without any shield; and Helena only sister of Lord Maurice married Robert, son and heir of Lord Dursley."

The following verses of the old monkish poet, Robert of Gloucester, gives some account of Hardyng.

A burgeys of Bristow tho' Robert Hardyng  
 For grete tresour and richeffe so well was wyth the kyng,  
 That he yast him and his heires the noble barony  
 That so ryche is of Berkely, with all the seignorie;  
 And thulke Robert Hardyng arered futh, I wys  
 An abbey at Bristow of St. Austyn that is,  
 Syr Rychard le Fitzroy of whome we spake before,  
 Gentleman he was inough, tho' he were last ybore;  
 For the Erles daughter of Warren his good moder was,  
 And her fader King John, that begat a perchas,  
 Sir Morris of Berkly wedded futh bycas  
 His daughter, and begat on her the good Knyght Sir Thomas.

All accounts agree of Hardyng's immense riches and large possessions, of his holding Wheatenhurst in Gloucestershire, of Earl Brietric in mortgage, and of his dying 16th Henry 1st. 1116, at Bristol, where he had been mayor or governor. He is expressly called mayor of Bristol in Dr. Cox Macro's manuscripts. Camden says, "he was of the blood royal of Denmark and an alderman of Bristol." He had a son Robert Fitzharding: Leland says in v. 6-13,

"Anno



" Anno 1135, Robertus filius Hardyngi &c." i. e. Robert son of Hardyng begat of Eva his wife four sons, Maurice de Berkly, Robert de Were, Nicolas de Tickenham, Thomas Archdeacon of Worcester; and that the monastery was founded the 3d ides of April 1148." And in v. 6. Itin. p. 50. he says "they bare not fyrste the name of Barkelye but Fitzhardyng, whereof one named Robert was a nobleman, and in proceſſe the Fitzhardynges married with the heirs general of Dursley, and the name was taken of them and continued." And in his Collect. v. 2. p. 912, he says "Thomas was son and heyr of Robert Fitzhardyng, which Robert was sonne and heyre to the younger brother of the Kinge of Denmark: which Robert in time of King William the Conqueror, inhabited Brightestow and there foundid the pryorie of St. Auguſtine." This Robert Fitzhardyng was of great account with Robert Earl of Gloceſter, and joined him with all his interest in behalf of Maud the Empreſs and her son Henry the 2d. the only heir to the crown from Henry the 1st. against King Stephen, who had usurped it. Bristol and its castle being in the hands of her brother Robert Earl of Gloceſter and esteemed a place of strength and refuge for Maud the Empreſs, she placed her son here to school among the chief mens sons of the town: and as Baker in his Chronicle records it "he was brought into England by his uncle Robert in 1141, and was put to school being then nine years old at Bristol under the tuition of one Mathews, where he remained four years." Here he grew much delighted with Robert Fitzhardyng, which friendship and affection begun in their tender years and schoolboy days left such an impression on their minds, as was not to be effaced, when both were advanced to a riper age, so that Henry when he came to the crown knighted this Robert Fitzhardyng, then mayor or governor of Bristol after his father, and made him heir of the Berkley estate of Roger Lord of Berkley and Dursley, confiscated for adhering to King Stephen against his mother Maud, and in recompence of his father Harding's supplies of money in supporting her cause, and in memory of the son's friendship and acquaintance in their younger years, he made him the first Lord of Berkley, from whom the present Lord Berkley is lineally descended. — He granted him also the manor of Bitton with lands in Berkley of 100l. yearly value. Leland in Collect. v. 2. p. 912 says "for as much as Roger Lord of Berkley and Dursley had but a daughter caullid Eva and was married to the bloude of the Fitzhardynges (at this tyme I am not certain whether Eva was married to Robert Fitzhardyng or Thomas his son,) but because that Eva was heir of Roger Lord of Berkley and Dursley because of the inheritaunce by his wife Eva, the name of Fitzhardyng was turned into



Berkley and so did continuë." Others say, Alice Lord Dursley's daughter was married to Maurice Robert Fitzharding's son.

By Abbot John Newland's manuscript relating to the foundation of this monastery, it appears that Robert Fitzharding first Lord of Berkeley and prime founder of it deceased, a canon of the same, as is evident by his obit in their mortilage, which was yearly in the chapter-house in this sort rehearsed, viz. " This day deceased Robert Fitzharding canon, and our founder;" and the same is witnessed by the charter of his son Maurice, second Lord Berkeley in these words: " Be it known to all Christian men, that I Maurice son and heir of Sir Robert Fitzharding have granted and confirmed for the health of my soul and of all my ancestry, to the church of St. Austin by Bristol, the which my lord and father hath founded, all such things which my said father hath given and granted to the canons of the said church, viz. within Berkeley Hernefs, Almondsbury, Horfield, Ashelworth, and Cromhall, the which he gave unto them when he became and was a canon: the which Sir Robert died February 5, 1170, and was buried between the abbot's and prior's stall, and next to the abbot's stall entering in the choir, and Eva his wife was buried by him, who died the 12th of March following." He was 75 years old at his death. Maurice died the 16th of June, 1189, and was buried in the parish church of Brentford, and had issue Robert and Thomas both Lords of Berkeley, for that Thomas succeeded his brother Robert who died without issue, which said Robert Lord of Berkeley was first founder of the hospital of St. Catherine in Bedminster, and was brought up in his youth in the court of Henry 2d. his obit was celebrated yearly at the said hospital with great solemnity. (Vide chapter on Redcliff parish below.)

Sir Robert Fitzharding first Lord of Berkeley began the foundation of the abbey of St. Austin's in 1140, and built the church and all the offices in six years time; when Simon Bishop of Worcester, Robert Bishop of Exeter, Geoffry Bishop of Llandaff, and Gilbert Bishop of St. Asaph, dedicated the church of the said monastery, and then afterwards Simon Bishop of Worcester inducted six canons of the monastery of Wigmore, gathered and chosen by the said Sir Robert into his church and monastery, on Easter-day, April 11, 1148.

" For which good Lord Sir Robert our founder and dame Eva his wife these be the special things due for them, besides the general prayers continually done in divine service by day and by night: first a daily special prayer said for them and all other fundators and benefactors at the hour of seven in the morning, and also daily prayers by name in our chapter-house openly. Also they have other rites solemnly sung with ringing on the eve of their anniversary





fary and on the morrow commendations; the abbot for the founder, and the prior for the foundress, executing the divine service. On the morrow of the day of the anniversary one hundred poor men be refreshed, every one of them having a canon's loaf of bread called a myche and three herrings therewith, and amongst them all two bushels of pease: also another dole that day shall be given of money, cake, and loaves; the abbot having a cake price 4d. with two castles of bread and 4d. for wine; the prior, sub-prior, and almoner, every of them two cakes price 2d. each, with one cast of bread, and 2d. for wine; every secular servant of the household within the monastery to have a penny cake and a cast of bread; every frier within every house of the four orders of Bristol to have a loaf, and likewise every prisoner within the gaol of Newgate of Bristol a loaf: and all the rest of the bread undealt to be dealt at the gate of the said monastery among poor people, and every man taking part of this dole shall have forty day's pardon. And in the day of the anniversary of dame Eva his wife shall be dealt to fifty poor men fifty loaves called myches with three herrings apiece, and amongst them all a bushel of pease."

This Robert the founder for whom the monks had reason to pray by his deeds laid down upon the altar, endowed this monastery with the manors of Almondsbury, Horfield, Ashelworth, Cromchall, Cerney, Blackensford,\* and divers lands in Erlingham in the county of Gloucester; and the manor of Leigh near Bedminster, and St. Catherine's near Portbury in the county of Somerset; Fifehead, in the county of Dorset; and the manor of Belliswick juxta Bristol, wherein the monastery is seated; and with the churches and advowsons of Tickenham and Portbury, in the county of Somerset, and the churches and advowsons of Berkeley,† Wotton, Bolnhall, Beverston, Ashelworth, and Almondsbury, and all other his churches and advowsons in the hundred of Berkeley with their chapels, in the county of Gloucester, and with divers houses in Bristol.

Second Robert, son of Robert Fitzharding, gave to this monastery the church of St. Nicholas in Bristol,‡ divers messuages in the said town, and lands in Paulet, in the county of Somerset.

## H H 2

## First

\* The manor of Blacksworth in 1746 consisted of eighteen messuages and land in copyhold, six in leasehold, the whole amounting to 647l. per annum, besides coal-works. Rownham-ferry, a part of it, then let at 100l. per annum.

† In the reign of Queen Anne, by act of parliament the Lord of Berkeley gave the rectory of of Sutton Boninton, in the county of Nottingham, to the dean and chapter of Bristol, in exchange for the said Lord to have the presentation of Berkeley church.

‡ It is usual now for the Bishop to have his visitation-sermon there, probably from its being the first church in Bristol given to the monastery.



First Maurice, eldest brother to the above Robert, gave in dotem or towards the marriage portion of that monastery (as the deed calls it) two hides of land in Hinton, and one in Alkinton, in the parish of Berkeley, and the tithes of all pannage of his chafes of Micklegate, Applegate, Oakley, and Weak or Wotton parks, and pasture for so many oxen as will till a plow-land to feed with oxen, as pure and perpetual alms. He died the first of Richard 1st. 1189, and is buried at Brentford near London, out of some pique to the abbot of St. Augustine, who had offended him: vide the Dean's manuscript. This lord was the first that took upon him the name of Berkeley and lived there.

Third Robert Lord Berkeley, son of the above Maurice, confirmed all his father's and grandfather's grants to this monastery, and also gave to the said church all his houses, lands, and tenements within the walls of Bristol, which (as the deed expresseth) were many and great. He also gave divers lands in Berkeley, Ham, Cowley, Nibley, and Hulmancot, in the county of Gloucester. This lord took up arms against King John, and with other nobles invited Lewis the French King's son into England, for which his estates were seized to the King's use. In the beginning of Henry 3d's. reign he was pardoned for a fine of 966l. He was a pious and good man, and built St. Catherine's hospital at Westminster, at Brightbow, where now a glass-house is erected. — Also he gave about the year 1207 his fountain, called Huge Well, to the parishioners, &c. of St. Mary Redcliff in Bristol. He died the fourth of Henry 3d. 1220, and is buried in the north aisle of St. Augustine's monastery over against the high altar (in an arch lying) in a monk's coul, a usual fashion for great lords in those times; Julian and Lucy, his two wives, are buried near him: Lucy survived him, and afterward married Hugh de Gournay.

First Thomas Lord Berkeley, brother to the above Robert, also confirmed to the monastery all the donations of his ancestors by particular name, and likewise gave them divers lands in Berkeley, Cowley, and Hinton, in the county of Gloucester, also common of pasture for twenty-four oxen in Ham, and discharged all their lands in the hundred of Berkeley and Portbury from all service and earthly demands. He was also a great benefactor to St. Catherine's hospital nigh Bristol. He having offended King Henry 3d. was obliged to enter himself a Knight Templar, and so was honourably banished: he died in the 76th year of his age and in the 27th of Henry 3d's. reign, 1243, and lies buried in the south aisle of St. Augustin's, under the arch next the rood altar, where his wife was also buried. The Lords of Berkeley did bear in their arms a chevron only, till this Thomas charged his coat with ten crosses, which



which Sir John Prestwich very ingeniously supposes was given him for his great devotion to the church, and alluding to the ten Ave Mary prayers.

Second Maurice Lord Berkeley, son and heir to the above Thomas, confirmed to the abbot and convent all the lands which his ancestors had given them, and all other freeholds given them within his fee and lordship, and also gave them lands in Berkeley, Beverston, Wolgaston, and Erlingham, and common of pasture of ruther beasts and swine to feed in divers of his manors. By another deed he grants a common of pasture to them for twenty-four oxen, seven fows, and one boar with the breed of an year old, in Walmergaston, Ham, Lafrid, and Gorst. Maurice second Lord Berkeley married Isabel, daughter of Maurice de Creoun, a baron in Lincolnshire, by Isabel his wife, daughter of Hugh le Brun Earl of March by Isabel, widow to King John; so as that this elder Isabel Lady Berkeley was indeed on the mother's side neice to King Henry 3d.—Says Kennet in parochial antiquities.

Lord Maurice died in the 9th year of King Edward 1st. anno 1281, and lieth buried in the north aisle of this monastery, next to the altar of Sir Maurice. He died seized of the manors of Berkeley, Cam, Hinton, Cowley, and Alkington, and of Redcliff-street without Bristol, belonging to the manor of Bedminster.

Second Thomas Lord Berkeley, son of the above Maurice, was thirty years old at his father's death: he confirmed to the abbot and convent all the donations which his father and ancestors had given them, also directed that the lands given by them should be a manor within the hundred of Berkeley, and should be called the manor of Canonbury; and granted them a court leet with flocks, pillory, and tumbrel in the said manor, except in the town of Berkeley; also he restored to them their plate and vestments, which had been plundered from them in the barons wars, being of great value, as Abbot Newland particularly has set them down to the value of 32l. 3s. 4d. In consideration of his services in the wars, he had grant of the liberty to hunt the hare, fox, &c. in the King's forests of Mendip\* and Kingfwood. This Lord Thomas was a wise, prudent person; he kept two hundred attendants in his family. — The 15th of Edward 1st. 1287, a quo warranto was brought against him to set forth his claim of markets and fairs in the manor and hundred of Berkeley: he pleaded his grant from King Henry 2d. which was allowed. Also the abbot of St. Augustin was served with the same warrant, to set forth his title to court leets in Berkeley, which was allowed. This lord was at most battles in Edward the 1st's reign. He was constable and general of a great army led into France, and

\* Munedup or Moinedoppe in ancient records, many knolls or hillocks, where minerals have been dug, Mendip, in Somersetshire.



and was one of the plenipotentiaries to make the peace. Having taken the field twenty-eight times, at last he was taken prisoner at the fatal battle of Bannock's-Burrough in Scotland. He married Jane, daughter of William de Ferrers Earl of Derby. He died in the 76th year of his age and 14th of Edward 2d. 1321, and lies buried with Jane his wife in the arch between the vestry and upper end of the south aisle in this monastery: See the arms on the south side of his tomb in the vestry. He gave the friers minors and friers preachers of Gloucester and Bristol divers quarters of wheat out of his several granaries.

Third Maurice Lord Berkeley son and heir to the last Lord Thomas, also confirmed the gifts and grants of his ancestors to this monastery. This Lord had a child at 14 years old. He died a prisoner in Wallingford castle the 19th of Edward 2d. 1326, he was first buried there, but his body was afterwards removed to this monastery and is buried in the south aisle under the arch before the choir door, whereby appears the mistake of Grafton, who writes that King Edward 2d. was committed to the care of this Lord Maurice in Berkeley castle, whereas he died the King's prisoner six months before the King's imprisonment.

Thomas Lord Berkeley the third of that name, and son and heir to the last Lord Maurice, confirmed to the abbot and convent all the gifts and grants of his ancestors, by a general recital of all their benefactions; also he granted to them all estrays and comelyrs as by the bailiff of the said Lord should be found upon any of the said abbot's lands. This Lord Thomas is said to have been privy to the murder of King Edward the 2d. at Berkeley castle, but he got off on his trial; and Stowe clears him. He married Margaret daughter of Roger Mortimer Earl of March, whose arms in painted glass is in this church in the choir, (over the Codrington's monument.) He was buried in the church of Berkeley the 35th of Edward the 3d. 1361. It appears in Pryn's Abridgment of the Records of the Tower, that he was not guilty of the murder of King Edward, but that Thomas de Gornay and William de Ogle did it, while he lay sick at Bewdley. He was a great combatant, was at the battle of Poitiers and wounded therein, and built Beverston castle by the gains he acquired in the wars.—Wolstan v. 1. f. 126. The Lord Thomas de Berkelie with licence of King Edward 3d. founded a perpetual chauntry in the abbacy of St. Augustin, Bristol, and gave to William de Underlith chaplain and his successors chaplains, perpetually to celebrate every day divine offices in the aforesaid abbacy for his soul and the soul of Margaret formerly his wife, and for the souls of all the faithful, two messuages and 20s. rent, with their appertinances in Bristol,  
dated





dated the 25th April 1348. Witnesses Maurice de Berkly his dearest son, Tho. de Bradstone.

Maurice Lord Berkeley the 4th of that name, was son and heir of the last Lord Thomas, he obtained a papal bull from Pope Urban the 2d. for 40 days pardon and release of penance enjoined to every one that should in the church and monastery of St. Austin (being then ruinous and to be repaired) upon the festival days in the year hear mass, or say kneeling three ave maries, or should give any vestment, ornament, gold, silver, books, chalices, or any aids of charity to the repair of the said church; and whoever should pray there for the life and good estate of the noble Lord Maurice de Berkeley and the noble Lady Elizabeth his wife and their children, or for any being in purgatory, should be released 40 days of the penance enjoined them, which for the infallibility thereof is also under the seals of four cardinals yet extant. In the 40th of Edward the 3d. 1366, Lord Maurice gave to Wm. Winchcomb chaplain, a house before the gate of St. Augustin's monastery, with the garden and dove-house, (now the dean's house,) and several houses in Broad-street in Bristol, to pray in said monastery for the soul of Margaret his mother, and lands in Portbury to pray also for his father and wife deceased. This Lord was a great warrior in Spain, he was married at eight years old to Elizabeth daughter of Hugh Lord Spencer, and died the 42d of Edward the 3d. 1368, of his wounds at the battle of Poitiers, and lieth with Margaret his mother who died the 5th of May 1337, (daughter to Roger Mortimer,) at the monastery of St. Austin in the great tomb under the arch between the old chapel of our Lady and the north aisle, at the foot of the pulpit steps.

The fourth Maurice was succeeded by his son Thomas, the fourth of that name, who held the manors and hundred of Bedminster, Harecliff and Portbury, and the third part of Portishead *inter alia*; the manors of Limeridge-wood, Weston in Gordan, and Walton: to him succeeded James his cousin and heir male, who dying 1404 was buried at St. Augustin's, Bristol; he gave six marks to find a priest to pray for his soul in that church.

William Lord Berkeley grand nephew to Thomas Lord Berkeley the fourth of that name, and son of Lord Maurice the fourth last-mentioned, gave to this monastery by deed dated the 4th of Henry the 7th. 1489, several houses in London, and lands in the counties of Worcester and Buckingham, in recompence whereof the abbot and convent accepted this Lord Marquis and the Lady Anne his wife (who was daughter of John Fiennes Lord Dacres) into their spiritual society and fraternity, and admitted them to the participation of all the benefits, works and merits wrought by him, as well in masses, hours, prayers,



prayers, watchings, fastings, discipline and hospitalities, as in alms or other benefices which hereafter shall be done or had in their monastery, with the addition from their special grace and bounty, viz. that when the deaths of this Lord and his wife shall be made known to them, there shall be as much said and done for their souls, as for the brothers and sisters and other benefactors of the said place: this William stood in such favour with King Edward the 4th. that he had a grant of 100 marks per annum from the King during his life, to be received out of the customs of the port of Bristol. He was the first of this family created a Marquis, the 4th of King Henry the 7th. 1489. He was seized at one time in his own right and in the right of his wife, of above 120 manors, but spent a great part of them to purchase honours, pardons and protections against his enemies. He also took occasion to except against his brother Maurice the fifth as his successor, because he had not married with a person of honourable parentage, (she being Isabella daughter to Philip Mead Esq; descended from the Meads of Meads-place in Fayland, in the parish of Wraxall, Somerset, then alderman of Bristol,) and gave all his lands from him, also he conveyed over the honour of Berkeley to King Henry the 7th. and to the heirs male of his body, by which the baronage was held from his family, it being appendant to the castle; the crown having kept possession of the honour of Berkeley and many estates belonging to these Lords until the death of Edward the 6th. being 61 years, when they returned to this family again. He died without issue the 7th of Henry 7th. 1491, and was buried at the Augustin Friery in London, which he had repaired or new-built.

Fifth Maurice brother to William, being disinherited, busied himself in regaining his inheritance, in which he in part succeeded, but died the 22d of Henry the 7th.

Maurice Lord Berkeley the sixth of this name was nephew to the last William, or son to the last Maurice, he built a chapel in this monastery, which is railed in, (where the family of Newtons are buried,) intending therein to be buried, but dying in Calais in the 15th of King Henry the 8th. 1523, was buried in Trinity chapel there. By his will he gave to this monastery his best pair of vestments with all the furniture, and 20l. in money, one gilt cross with all the reliqs enclosed in the same, with all his best gilt cosets, also one pair of white vestments with all their furniture, and the best pair of black vestments with his best missal, and a good chalice, these are the words of his will. He was high-sheriff of Gloucestershire the 7th of Henry the 8th. 1516; he after was governor of Calais and made a baron by writ the 14th of Henry the 8th. 1523. His wife was Katherine daughter of Sir William Berkeley of Stoke-Giffard;

he



he had no issue, but one bastard son, who is the only unlawful son heard of in this family.

Thomas Lord Berkeley the fifth of that name and brother to the above Lord Maurice, was constable of Berkeley castle which was then in the crown, he died the 24th of Henry the 8th. 1532, and lieth buried in this monastery under a fine tomb with Elenor his first wife: this is said to be the last Lord Berkeley that was buried in this monastery. Sir Robert Atkins says that this Lord married Elizabeth daughter of Sir Marmaduke Constable of Yorkshire, and his last wife was Cicely widow of Richard Rowden of Gloucester Esq. Dugdale says that by his will he ordained that his body should be buried without great pomp or pride in the parish church of Mangotsfield, near to the place where he used to kneel under the partition between the choir and his own chapel; and within a quarter of a year after to be brought to St. Austlin's, Bristol, and there buried near unto his first wife.

Thus to this noble family was this monastery beholden for its liberal endowment as well as for its first foundation and erection: each of them distinguished himself as the loving father and patron of this church: they nursed it as it were from its cradle, supported it in its infancy, and still continued to protect and enrich it in the riper years of its maturity; and were doubtless men of as great piety and extensive charity as they were many of them of the greatest abilities both in the cabinet and in the field: they gave such large estates to monasteries from a pious zeal and religious motive, and endowed them with so many benefices, that the family is said to have had but one rectory to which they might present a chaplain, which was Sutton Bonington, and that afterwards was exchanged for the vicarage of Berkeley near their castle.

Besides the benefactions bestowed on this monastery by this noble family at different times as before related, it can also boast of many Kings and Princes that favoured it with their grants and confirmations, and protected it with their power; and many private gentlemen of fortune distinguished it with their bounty.

Amongst the former Henry the 2d. when Duke of Normandy and Earl of Anjou, gave a charter of confirmation of lands and rents belonging to the crown of England to this monastery, "which (says he) I began to assist with my benefaction and cherish with my protection in the beginning of my youth, (*initio juventutis meæ.*)"—King John confirmed all preceding grants, and quit-claimed their land from the view of his foresters, and the rule of the forest (*regnardo,*) and gave them 44 acres in Eifemore free from all services &c.



He also granted and confirmed to them Leigh, a member of Bedminster near Bristol.—Edward the 2d. also by charter confirmed all former grants.

Ralph Earl of Chester gave the land of Fifehead in Dorsetshire and the church of All Saints in Bristol.

Mabile Countess of Gloucester, mother of Earl William, gave them sixty acres of land in Romne marsh, between the monastery of St. Peter de Mora and the grove towards the north.

William Earl of Gloucester gave them one hundred acres in Kiburgh between Duneleis and Kenelechi, and Runn and Donestone across from side to side.

Osbert de Pennard gave the land of Pennard with its appurtenances and liberties, and particularly the pasture between Teach and Clay, and Earl William confirmed it to them.

John de Cogan gave twenty acres of land and two acres of meadow near Pennard. William, son of Gregory, gave forty solidates of land in Alberton. William de Lond gave the lands of Blackensword. Gregory de Turry eight solidats of rent in Newport. Eudo de Morevil half a virgate of land at Wrokehale and the mill of Radeford. Richard de Wrokehale, the son of Toni, his land of Radeford. William, the son of Robert the son of Martin, a messuage in Blakedone with two crofts, ten acres of land, with common of pasture in the same vill. William, the son of Afey, and Galfrid his brother, one rood of land at Weston.

King John granted and confirmed all the burgages that they had in the town of Bristol and without, as well in the fair as elsewhere, given to them after the death of William Earl of Gloucester; also the mills they have upon the Trinel, and the lands which they have at Blackensword.

William de Clifedon gave the church of Clifedone. Gilbert de Aldelane gave half a hide of land in Ferenberge. Nicholas, the son of Robert (Fitzharding), the church of Tikeham. Earl William the church of Grantendene, the church of Halbertone, and the church of Ronne and of Flat Holme. William, the son of Gregory, the church of Finenere. King John granted and confirmed to them all their liberties and free customs, and that the canons shall be ever free from toll and passage for ships, men, and boats, and be quit from all exactions belonging to him in the ports of the sea or elsewhere.

By an old deed extant in the bishop's registers of the church of Wells, dated 1257, it appears that the churches of Portbury, Tykenham, Were, and Poulet were then appropriated to the abbot and convent of St. Augustin, Bristol.

This house was one of the great abbies, and the whole convent consisted of an abbot, prior, sub-prior, and about fourteen friars or canons regular, professing the rule





rule of St. Augustin, of the order of St. Victor; whether they did not increase the number of their body, according to their income and ability, does not appear; that such was the number in 1353 however is clear.

The form observed in electing the abbot was the following, as I find it in a Latin deed, dated March 7, 1353, when William Coke, the sub-prior, was chosen abbot, about whose election some dispute had arisen, which was determined at length by the prior of the church of Worcester, the see being then vacant: — “ Walter de Shafesbury, prior of the monastery of St. Augustin, Bristol, and the under-written canons regular of the same, viz. frier Thomas de Bykenore, Robert Dunsterre, Simon de Tormarton, Robert Syde, John de Lammer, Richard Martyn Chamberlain, John Badminton, Walter Cheltenham, Laurence de Cyrencester, John Snyte, John de Launston, Walter Raguin, Adam Horfelye, John Goldenye, John Strete, making the convent of the said monastery, being met in the chapter-house, and having received the licence of Philippa Queen of England their patron to choose an abbot in room of Ralph Asche the last abbot, who died the 1st of March, 1352, the word of God being first expounded and an hymn de Sancto Spiritu sung, all present then in the chapter-house being ordered solemnly to depart who had no right in this election of an abbot, the Queen’s letter of licence was first read, and consideration had among themselves concerning the mode of the election, which was determined to be by scrutiny; three scrutators out of the whole were then chosen, who were separately to receive the vote of each present in a secret manner and write it down, and so continue the scrutiny till the major part of the canons of the whole convent should consent to the same fit person; which being done, the scrutators privately retiring to one corner of the chapter-house, and having wrote and reckoned the votes, they published their scrutiny to the rest in common, by which it appeared that nine of them consented to name William Coke, the other eight of them divided their votes to different persons. The best and major part of the whole convent having thus given their votes for William Coke, thereto qualified as a religious man, professing the rule of St. Augustin and the order of canons regular instituted in the said monastery, honest, of a lawful age above thirty, in the order of priesthood, born in lawful wedlock, on all which accounts the election was unanimously ordered to be made by Robert Syde thus: “ In the name of the high and undivided Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Amen. Whereas the monastery of St. Augustin, Bristol, is now vacant by the death of Ralph Asch the last abbot, who has been ecclesiastically interred, and all those who could be present and had right of electing a future abbot at



a day and hour appointed for such election came together and agreed, that the said election should be made by scrutiny, which was accordingly made and published, it was clearly found that the best and major part of the said whole convent agreed upon frier William Coke, the sub-prior, a provident and discrete person, competently learned, eminent for his morals and conversation in life, a priest in orders, expressly professing the rule of St. Augustin, and the order of canons regular in the said monastery, of ripe age, begot in lawful matrimony, prudent in all temporal and spiritual matters, whom nothing prevents of canonical institution. Therefore I Robert Syde, precentor of the said monastery on behalf of myself and the whole convent by the power given me by the whole convent, invoking the grace of the Holy Spirit, do elect our said brother William Coke for abbot of the monastery aforesaid:" and immediately afterwards we all and every one, (the said elect only excepted, who then neither approved nor disapproved the said election) with one accord consented to and expressly approved of the said election so solemnly celebrated; and lifting up the said elected brother William Coke with our hands amongst us, and singing solemnly *Te Deum Laudamus*, we carried him to the high altar of the said monastery, and reclined him upon the said altar according to custom, and saying the usual prayer over him, we commanded the said election to be published in the English tongue to the clergy and laity then in the said monastery in great multitude assisting, by the said frier Robert Syde there present, taking on him that order by our direction. The day following 16th March at three o'clock we caused to be presented the process of the said election by our fellow canon and proctor Richard Martyn to the said elected abbot, desiring that he would vouchsafe to yield consent to the said election; he willing to see the said process and to deliberate concerning it received it, and at nine o'clock the same day the said proctor required of him consent to the said election in this manner: " I frier Richard Martyn, the proctor of the prior and convent of canons regular of St. Augustin, Bristol, in the diocese of Worcester, do present to you our elect lord for abbot of the said monastery the process of election made of you; I also require in my own and the name of the said prior and convent humbly, that you would vouchsafe to impart your consent to the said election." After this the said elect after short deliberation answered the said proctor, and consented to it in this manner: " In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen. I William Coke, canon regular of the monastery of St. Augustin, Bristol, in the diocese of Worcester, observing from the tenor of the process of election of an abbot of the said monastery made of me, which process has been offered to me and examined, that the said election has been made in canonical form, reposing

hope



hope in God of my ability in the said matter, and unwilling on this occasion to resist the divine will, in honour of God and the glorious Virgin and of St. Augustin to whose honour this monastery was built, do consent to this election made of me." Thus was the election of an abbot conducted in all its forms; nothing now remained but the convent applying to the Bishop of Worcester to confirm their choice and to confer the benediction of the abbot, which finished the whole, and the abbot was inducted and installed by the prior of St. James, to whom a commission from the see of Worcester was directed for that purpose. Whether this abbot conducted the affairs of the monastery with prudence and good conduct and reformed abuses does not appear; but it is very certain, such abuses often existed there, and in very early times.

In the year 1234, upon the resignation of David the abbot, William prior of the same church (called William de Bradstone) succeeded, and received the benediction of an abbot at Worcester, and satisfied the sacrist concerning his cup and alb (or gown) and the convent in the procurations of 40s. (ann. Wyg.) and in 1242 Walter de Cantelupe Bishop of Worcester visited the monastery, and upon the resignation of William the abbot, Wm. the Camerarius de Keynsham succeeded and made the same satisfaction.

In the year 1278, 9th Nov. Godfrey Bishop of Worcester, in his visitation of the abbey of St. Augustin, Bristol, found it as well in temporal as spiritual matters greatly decayed, (*damnabiliter prolapsam*) and ordered, "that in future they do not as bees fly out of the choir as soon as service is ended, but devoutly wait as become holy and settled persons, not as vagrants and vagabonds; and returning to God due thanks for their benefactors, and so receiving at last the fruits of their religion, to which they have specially devoted themselves. And as the present abbot was not sufficiently instructed to propound the word of God in common, he appointed others in his stead: and that silence be better observed than usual, that no one go out without urgent necessity, and not then but when two are in company, one the elder the other the younger, licensed by the abbot, or the prior in his absence.

In the chapter correction was to be done without respect of persons, harder penance to be imposed on the more gross and frequent offenders. In the refectory the friars were to be provided as was requisite and the estates would allow, and to keep silence there as the regular observance requires, and there all were to live in common and eat, unless necessity force them to do otherwise, and no brother was to dispose of the fragments of the table, but the whole be laid up for alms. In the infirmary food and drink was to be provided for the sick, and other things useful for them: and he forbade under a curse



curse that any feign himself sick when he is not so, to live a dissolute life and fraudulently despise God's worship; and on the like penalty he forbad any secular persons being introduced to them except the physician and the servants of the infirmary, nor should the friars that were in health meet there for the sake of drinking and surfeiting. Also in their meals all were to abstain from detraction and obscene speech, but use words of honesty and good tendency to edify the soul. The abbot was to correct all misdoers in the chapter-house, only not publicly; and when the abbot eat in the refectory or infirmary, his servants and clerks were to dine with the strangers in some common room and not in their own chambers, nor have any drinking there as was used. And as the temporal revenue was not well managed, he ordered that the abbot should have two receivers to write distinctly and openly from whom, what, and when they received, that none receive but those two, and that the abbot should provide a brother to keep the granary in the abbey, and receive from the manors and churches the corn of every kind by distinct tallies from the deliverers, and further shall make tallies against those who have the custody of the bread and beer, and others who sell corn from the granary. That the abbot should swear all his servants for the faithful discharge of their duty, and for rendering a just account yearly when required; and that the bailiffs shall be examined and their accounts approved by four examiners of the convent chosen every year for that purpose: that at the end of the year what was received and expended, and on what occasion, and what remains may appear to all.

And as the abbot had a superfluous family and useles, he appointed that he should have a moderate family as William his predecessor used to have, one or two chaplains, two or three scutiferos and no more; and that his chaplain receive the expences of the abbot when he goes abroad from the receivers, and receive nothing from the bailiffs or servants, and account with the receivers on his return: and that when the abbot goes from his principal house he see that it be first well provided with victuals and other things that may be wanting in his absence, and not keep splendid entertainments out of his house as he used, unless necessity and evident use require, and this with the consent of the convent. And that Henry of the granary, Hugh the feller of the corn, and Roger the porter be removed from their offices and others more faithful be appointed in their room. And that all useles servants be turned out, and only the useful and necessary kept; that in his next visitation nothing be found offensive but what shall be profitable to the monastery.

And





And in the year 1280 John the abbot being very ill detained by sickness, the monastery was again on the decline, and the monks despised the rules of the house, for which the bishop threatened them with ecclesiastical censure.

But in the year 1282 he again visited the monastery and stopped there three days; the first day he visited St. Austin's, and the second and third the house of St. James and St. Mark, and was at his own expence, and found all well (*tam in capite quam membris*) only that the old abbot lived out of the monastery in some manner of his to the loss of the convent; and that they were burdened with a debt of 300*l.* sterling, because Bogo de Clare took from them that year a certain church of 150*l.* against all justice.

In the year 1320 the Bishop of Worcester at his visitation corrected several irregularities in this monastery; he ordered all the hounds they kept to be removed, the almoner frier Henry de Gloucestre to be displaced, and enquiry to be made concerning frier John de Schestebury accused of incontinence with certain women unknown, and concerning William Barry for sowing discord among the brethren; that the sick be better provided for, that the brethren have a sufficiency, but in cash as hath been accustomed, that the mass of the Blessed Virgin be duly and solemnly celebrated, that the 40*d.* be distributed in the convent and not be detained by the prior or sub-prior; that William Barry under a sentence of excommunication for apostacy be absolved, and that his penance of drinking water only, which he has done constantly on a Wednesday, be dispensed with, and that he may drink beer and eat pulse, but abstain from eating fish.

In the year 1322 peace was restored and the dispute settled between the monastery of St. Augustin and the house of St. Mark concerning the area or plain called the Cemetery of St. Austin's, Bristol, and the use of the same.

In 1371 the King sent a letter to William Bishop of Worcester, ordering him to visit the abby of St. Augustin, Bristol, as Henry who then presided over it, it appeared had wasted the rents of the said abby by incurring excessive charges and other mismanagement, whereby the divine service there was almost at an end, all alms-giving ceased, and the canons dispersed for want of support, unless remedies were soon used.

Silvester Bishop of Worcester obliged the abbot and convent of St. Augustin to pay in right of their prebend of Berkeley five marks a year to the sacrist of the church of Worcester, to find a lamp to burn before the tomb of John, formerly the illustrious King of England, buried in that church, (*L. Rub.*  
Wygorn,



Wygorn, p. 195. 6.) which was confirmed by Walter the Bishop the 15th of the kalends of November 1310.

Abbas Santi Augustini &c. *i. e.* The abbot of St. Augustine's, Bristol, paid to the Lord Bishop 3l. 6s. 8d. at the two feasts that is at Easter and Michaelmas, out of a pension of the church of Berkeley, which is the sum of five marks above-mentioned, and probably on the same account.

In 1374 the prior of the church of Worcester, the see being then vacant, by authority of the court of Canterbury, issued a decree for the regulation of the house of St. Augustin, by Bristol, then in great disputes and disorders; by which he ordained, 1. That alms should be done there as used according to custom and the estates of the monastery. 2. That the prior in the absence of the abbot should grant the licences. 3. That the canons in the Infirmary should be relieved while sick, and be provided with victuals more nice than for the healthy and with medicines their sickness may require; and that the patient have 4os. as a favour as used. 4. That seven canons worthy of trust have the custody of the common seal, and each have one key of it, and the said keepers be deputed by the abbot. 5. Also that the canons go out honestly to their labour according to custom, and have their leisure after dinner in due places as the time permit. 6. That provision be made for the secular clerks used to singing in the chapel of the Blessed Virgin, and that they be supported as of ancient custom. 7. That the sacrist at his own expence provide for the wax candles that used to burn in the said chapel, and lamps in the church six, &c. that the chamberlain (camerarius) provide the same to burn in the dormitory. 8. That five of the older and healthier canons be chosen, with whose advice the abbot may treat of the greater matters relating to the house, and do for the best; without whose advice the corn of the monastery above ten pounds value shall not be sold in anywise, and that these advisers be chosen by the abbot and convent; by whose advice officers of the monastery shall be deputed to render an account of their services every year or oftener, at the will of the abbot, who may remove them at his pleasure. 9. That as to the spiritualities of the convent for their habit and other things, collectors be deputed and two receivers by the abbot and convent, who may faithfully deliver and keep the money due and in this part used, and distribute it among the convent by the supervision of the abbot and the said five advisers. 10. That the bedding in the Infirmary be amended, restored, and honestly kept. 11. That as to the secular servants in the Infirmary, Refectory, or elsewhere on the part of the convent, they shall be appointed by the abbot and the said five advisers, which servants shall swear not to divulge to any one the secret coun-



fels of the convent but faithfully conceal them; and that they will minister and maintain no matter of disagreement betwixt the abbot and convent and any others, but cherish peace and love; whoever is found culpable to be removed from their offices. 12. That the best bedding of all that die in the convent be removed into the Infirmary for the use of the sick. 13. That there be had one (brevigerulus) carrier of the service books, to do his office and have his usual support. 14. That the cook have no secular person about him in his office. 15. That as to the receival of the common money of the monastery two prudent men of the convent shall be chosen by the abbot and the five advisers, and the abbot to be a third, and they to have three keys of the chest in which the said money is to be deposited by them, and each should carry one of the said three keys, and then at the command of the abbot and the council of the said five advisers the said money should be expended for the use of the monastery and convent as should seem needful. 15. Also that the bread and beer should be made better, and also be in more competent quantity than hitherto. 16. That as to the kitchen, the convent should be provided with two sorts of flesh in sufficient quantity at the discretion of the abbot and the said five advisers, and that the like be done concerning fish on fish-days; and on the sabbath days they should be served with fresh fish when to be got; and the convent should then after one year be served out of the kitchen as had been accustomed, unless any thing should happen to prevent fulfilling it, on which occasion the abbot and five advisers were to determine. 17. That for the five marks claimed by the convent out of the manor of Bageruge the abbot would grant six marks out of Marsfeld if the profits thereof will arise to that sum, otherwise out of the other proventions of the monastery. 18. Also that as to knives being bought yearly for the convent, let them be provided as had been accustomed.

These regulations were established and done in the chapter-house of the monastery in the year 1374, the 27th of August, and confirmed by the official of the see of Worcester setting his seal with witnesses, as appears by the Latin deed in Regist. Wygor. sed. Yecante, f. 179, which I have translated above.

In 1345, 1st Jan. Wolstan Bishop of Worcester confirmed to the monastery of St. Augustin the several churches of Ashelworth, Berkeley, Wappely, Almondbury, also St. Nicholas, St. Leonard, All-Saints, and St. Augustin's the Lels in Bristol.

In 1480, in the time of William Hunt abbot, the prior and convent granted an obit and mass to be called Abbot William's Mass, to be perpetually celebrated by one Cofrere a priest at seven o'clock every morning, in a certain new chapel of the Blessed Mary the Virgin, situate in the East end of the conventual



church, for the good estate of the said William while he shall live and for his soul after he is departed, &c. for that the said William devoutly disposed had caused to be erected at his own expence many great barns houses and other costly edifices, as well in divers manors belonging to the said monastery as in the said monastery itself, and had made anew the covering of the whole conventual church, as well by battlements with stones and pinnacles decently placed round the said church as by timber, lead and other necessities, and had given to the monastery there for ever to remain certain vessels silver and gilt, and some other jewels (jocalia) silver and gilt of no small value, and conferred many other gifts and benefits on his monastery while he was abbot. The convent ensured to the Bishop of Worcester the manor of Corwell in Somerset, with a right of common on Menydepe for the prior to pay for ever for this obbit, which was estimated at 8l. a year; he died the 14th March 1480.

In 1481 John Newland alias Neilheart, was chosen abbot in his stead.

The following is a list of the abbots from Brown Willis, and from the registers of Worcester and abbot Newland's manuscript compared with others.

1. Richard the first abbot was instituted in 1148 and governed 38 years, (28 according to Newland,) till his death.

2. Phillip succeeded and was removed 1196 (according to the Mon. Anglic. v. 1. p. 1034.) to Bellelande in Yorkshire.

3. John, he governed 29 years, and died the 12th of February 1215, and another of the same name succeeded. See page 246.

4. John (according to Newland Joseph) died in six weeks, and others say 31 weeks after his election.

5. David was chosen 1216, resigned or died 1234, and was buried under a marble with the figure of a human skull and cross on it, near the Elder Lady's Chapel, still to be seen there.

6. William de Bradestone, his arms are in the window over the high altar, A. on a canton, G. a rose or. barbed proper. He was of Winterborne in the county of Gloucester; he resigned the 20th of August 1242, after which he lived ten years.

7. William Long, called Camerarius de Cainsham, said to have been a monk there; he died the 17th of May 1264, and lies buried in the North aisle on the left hand of Hugh Dodington.

8. Richard de Malmbury, he died the 13th of September 1276, after governing 12 years.

9. John





9. John de Marina elected the 10th of October 1276, was long troubled with sickness and died the 26th of February 1286, having governed 10 years, and was buried in the chapter-house.

10. Hugh of Dodington was confirmed abbot 1287, pat. 9th of Edward 1st. died the 26th of November 1294, after governing 8 years, and was buried in the cross North aisle betwixt two other abbots.

11. James Barry, he obtained the royal assent the 16th of December following, pat. 22d of Edward the 1st. he governed 12 years and died the 12th of November 1306, and was buried under a marble on the South side of the Rood altar. In 1299 going to Almondsbury late in the evening, many armed men entered suddenly and broke in upon him and took away what the abbot had there for his household, and killed his steward. Annal. Wygorn.

12. Edmund Knowles, or de Knolle, was elected by virtue of the royal licence dated the 30th of November 1306, (1311 Reg. Wyg.) he governed about 26 years. He is in Newland's account said to have begun rebuilding the church anew the 25th of Edward the 1st. the 20th of August, that is now standing from the ground, ("Ecclesia jam funditus diruta," Reg. Wygorn,) with the vestry and also the King's-hall and chamber, and the frater; and procured of the King a confirmation of all the possessions of the monastery. The fourth Maurice Lord Berkeley was a great promoter of this grant, and procured a papal bull to get benefactions towards rebuilding the church, see the patent and clause rolls the 31st of Edward the 1st. and the 10th of Edward the 2d. 1317. Abbot Knowles died the 9th of June 1332, and was buried against the North wall before the Rood high altar; his figure is in pontificalibus carved in freestone, lying on his back with a crozier in his hand and mitre on his breast; arms G. or. a chevron arg. three roses of the first.

13. John Snow was the first abbot of this monastery summoned to parliament, and indeed the last; he received the benediction from the Bishop of Worcester at Hartlebury-palace the 4th of July 1332, (the 17th of June according to Newland); having governed 9 years he died July the 12th, 1341.

14. Ralph Ash, or Afch, was confirmed abbot the 2d of August (21st July Reg. Wyg.) 1341, died the 1st of March 1353, and was buried in the middle of the choir: he bore for arms a tree in a field all proper; he petitioned to be discharged from attending the parliament, as expensive to his house, and obtained it in 1341.

15. William Cook was installed by mandate from the prior of Worcester in the vacancy of that see the 7th of March 1353, resigned in October 1363, and



died the 8th of April following, 1364, and was buried before the door entering the Lady's chapel, where the crofs of lead is still to be feen. According to Newland he resigned 1365 and died 1366, and that in his time it was found by inquisition what lands the monastery poffeffed as by efch. the 45th of Edward the 3d. 1330, memb. 72, in the Tower of London.

16. Henry Shellingford, alias Blebery, elected 1366, he died the 2d of December 1388, and was buried in the nether tomb of the prefbytery which he caufed to be made befide the high altar. He is faid to have wafted the poffeffions of the monastery by injurious leafes and his own exorbitant expences, &c. as appears by a letter of Edward the 3d. the 45th year. Reg. Wygorn. Lynn. fol. 48.

17. John Cerny governed 5 years, he died the 5th of October 1393, and was buried in the over tomb of the prefbytery.

18. John Daubeny governed 35 years, and died the 26th of January 1428.

19. Walter Newbury met with great trouble in his office, being unjuftly expelled for five years, and one Thomas Sutton intruded into his place, till thruft out by the convent for dilapidations and other waftes committed in fuffering quit rents to be loft; hence no account is taken of his death. As to the abbot Newbury he was a great benefactor to his church, and built the offices to the manor-houfe of Leigh, alfo the manor-houfes of Fyfhead in Dorfetfhire, and of Almondsbury and Afhelworth in Gloucefterfhire, belonging at prefent to the bifhoprick of Bristol: he governed 35 years, died 1463 the 3d of September, (1473 Reg. Wyg.) and was buried againft the North wall of the chapel, carved in ftone in pontificalia, lying on his back with crofier and mitre.

20. William Hunt elected the 11th of September 1463, (9th Oct. 1473, Reg. Wyg.) and having governed 18 years, (7 years Reg. Wyg.) died the 14th of March 1481; he was a liberal benefactor to his monastery; rebuilt the roof of the church and ailes, and caufed the lead to be new caft all from the tower eaftward, for which he had a yearly mafs decreed him perpetually to be obferved; his arms were az. a St. Andrew's crofs or.

21. John Newland, alias Nailheart, elected the 6th of April 1481; arms arg. three nails or. piercing an heart vuln'd proper: he was a very learned man, of great abilities, and often employed by King Henry the 7th. in foreign embaffies: he beautified his church and added many buildings to it, and wrote its hiftory and account of the family of the Berkeleys, ftill in manuſcript: having governed 34 years, he died the 12th of June 1515, and

was



was buried here under a stately monument.—In Wood's *Athenæ Oxon.* v. 1. p. 639, may be read a long account of him, "that he was called the good abbot, a person solely given to religion and alms deeds," &c.

22. Robert Elliot elected the 27th of September 1515, (7th Sept. Reg. Wyg.) he enjoyed it 10 years before J. Somerfet, which I take notice of because his name is omitted in the list of abbots in the chapter-house, and by Brown Willis; he had some share in building the stately gate-house with abbot Newland, at least the upper part of it above the arch, where they made niches in which they did not forget to place their own statues with their arms underneath. On the floor of the cathedral are a great many square bricks with the initials R E for this abbot's name; also shields of arms with the same initials, which are arg. on a chief G. two mullets of the first.

23. John Somerfet elected about 1526, died 1533; he bears the Somerfet arms.

24. William Burton elected the 9th of September 1534, he with John Giles and 17 others of the monastery subscribed to the King's supremacy, and three years after deceased, the 28th of Henry the 8th. 1537.

25. Morgan Guiliam ap Guiliam elected 1537, being the last abbot; he surrendered his monastery into the King's hands the 9th of December 1539, and obtained a pension of 80l. per annum for life, he died before the year 1553.—In Fuller and Speed's history he is charged with keeping six lewd women, but it is thought without very good evidence; these and worse crimes were imputed to the monks as a strong and plausible excuse for dissolving their houses.

As this house was one of the great abbies, it came to the crown by the statute of the 31st of Henry the 8th. and was certified to be worth in old rents according to Speed 767l. 15s. 3d. per annum, to Dudg. clear 670l. 13s. 11d. and some little provision was made for the monks then turned out.

The following account appears entered in the book of pensions on the date of the King's commission, which has this entry dated December the 9th 21st Henry the 8th. 1539.

- First, "To Morgan Guiliam late abbat there, with the Mansion Place of Lee, (that is Abbot's Leigh,) the garden, orchard and dove-house to the same adjoining and yealding, (and also 20 loads of fyer-wood yearly to be perceyved and taken out of the wood of the said mannor by the assignment of the Kings Highness's surveyor or keeper there



there during his life without any thing yielding or paying for the same,) - - - -	£ 80 0 0
Item, To Humfry Hicman late prior there, - - - -	8 0 0
John Restal, - - - -	8 0 0
John Carye, - - - -	6 13 4
Nicholas Corbett, - - - -	6 13 4
Henry Pavyc, - - - -	6 0 0
William Wrington, - - - -	6 0 0
William Underwood, - - - -	6 0 0
Richard Hill, - - - -	6 0 0
Richard Orrell, - - - -	6 0 0
Richard Sterley, - - - -	6 0 0
Richard Hughes, - - - -	6 0 0
Sum	£ 151 6 8

It is uncertain what became of these religious afterwards. In the year 1553 John Restal, Richard Orell, Richard Kersey, Richard Hughes, and William Underwood, were living and received their pensions.—In 1554 Rich. Hughes was made a prebendary of this church.

King Henry having got infinite treasure by suppressing these religious houses, the better to palliate that seeming sacrilege doubtless greatly cried out against by the people of those days, made a shew of refunding part by erecting six new bishopricks, of which this dissolved monastery was one, which in the 34th year of his reign was erected into a bishoprick, consisting of a Bishop, Dean and six Prebendaries, &c. though like other things ordered in that confusion the diocese was very much distant from the see. The church of the monks was fixed upon for the cathedral; which began to be demolished, and was like to undergo the common fate of other ancient and venerable structures (once the glory and ornament of the English nation:) If my author rightly informs me, the rapacious disposition of the men of those times was such, that for the sake of the lead with which the west part of this church was covered, they were actually set to work upon the same, and after they had uncafed the roof, quickly proceeded to destroy the structure itself (which was in part effected) but a stop being put to the same by order from the King, by his being informed, that there was yet left standing of the fabrick sufficient to make it a cathedral for the bishop's see, the further destruction was prevented, and it was left in that ruinous condition at the west side of the tower still to be seen,





seen, a standing monument of the precipitate and confused disorder with which matters were then carried on, and of the rage then stirred up and violence used against the monks and their superb buildings, where great hospitality was obliged to be kept for the relief of the poor; while the monasteries stood there was no act for their relief, so amply did those hospitable houses succour those in want, whereas in the next reign 39 Eliz. no less than eleven bills were brought into parliament for that sole purpose, and how real a burden the poor tax has been since needs not be mentioned. The refectory and support of the poor was one of the articles often inserted in the grants to those houses. This good cannot then be denied them.

In one of the plays attributed to Shakespeare, wrote certainly as early, called the Life of Lord Cromwell, in edition of Tonson, 1728, vol. ix. p. 166. this use of the monasteries is thus insisted on by Gardiner.

*Gardiner.* Have I not reason when religion is wrong'd?

You had no colour for what you have done.

*Cromwell.* Yes: the abolishing of antichrist,

And of his Popish order from our realms:

I am no enemy to religion,

But this is done; it is for England's good;

What did they serve for? But to feed a sort

Of lazy abbots and of full-fed friars?

They neither plow nor sow, and yet they reap

The fat of all the land, and suck the poor:

Look what was their's is in King Henry's hands,

His wealth before lay in the abby lands.

*Gardiner.* Indeed these things you have alledged, my Lord,

When, God doth know, the infant yet unborn

Will curse the time the abbies were pull'd down;

I pray you where is hospitality?

Where now may poor distressed people go

For to relieve their need or rest their bones,

When weary travel doth oppress their limbs:

And where religious men should take them in

Shall now be kept back by a mastiff dog,

And thousand thousands, &c.

Though the drones were turned out of the hive, yet the buildings so superb and so ornamental to the kingdom might have been spared, and converted to the



the uses of charity and hospitality and be made houses of industry to employ the poor, like country work-houses so much talked of now, though so slowly put in practice on account principally of the expence in erecting them.

To conclude the account of this abby, I here add a copy of the foundation charter, preserved still in Berkeley castle, with a translation, referring the reader for the rest of the deeds, &c. to the places where they may be consulted.

*Prioratus Sancti Augustini de Bristol in agro Gloucestrensi.*

*Carta Roberti filii Hardingi, de fundatione ejusdem.*

\* Robertus filius Hardingi, omnibus hominibus et amicis suis, et universis sanctæ ecclesiæ fidelibus, ad quos hæc carta pervenerit, salutem: Sciatis quod cum Dominus Rex Henricus manerium de Berchallé, et totam Berchaleiernesse mihi in feodum et hæreditatem dedisset, et Cartâ suâ confirmasset, cum omnibus libertatibus et rebus ad Berchaleiernesse pertinentibus, in ecclesiis, in nemoribus, in pratis, et pasturis, et in omnibus aliis rebus, sicut fuerunt tempore Henrici regis avi sui: Ego consensu et assensu ipsius domini mei regis, ecclesias de Berchaleiernesse; scilicet, ecclesiam de Berchalé, et ecclesiam de Were, et ecclesiam de Beverstan, et ecclesiam de Esseleward; et ecclesiam de Almodesburi, singulis cum capellis, et terris, et libertatibus ad ipsas ecclesias pertinentibus, pro salute animæ meæ, et domini mei regis, et antecessorum meorum, et uxoris meæ, et liberorum, dedi et concessi ecclesiæ Sancti Augustini de Bristol, et canonicis regularibus ibidem domino servientibus, in perpetuam et liberam elemosinam, nullo jure retento, mihi vel hæredibus meis, in prædictis ecclesiis, cum eas vacare contigerit. — Similiter et omnes ecclesias de Berchaleiernesse, ubicunque fuerint, cum capellis et omnibus eorum pertinentiis dedi, et concessi prædictis canonicis in perpetuam elemosinam, et hac meâ cartâ confirmavi. Hiis testibus, Henrico Decano Moretoniæ, et Mauricio fratre ejus, Giraldo persona ecclesiæ de cam, W. de Saltmaris, et Adamo fratre ejus, Helia filio Hardingi, Richardo scriptore, et Alano de Bedmenistra.

The priory of St. Augustin, in Bristol, in the county of Gloucester.

A deed of Robert son of Harding concerning the foundation thereof.

Robert son of Harding to all men and his friends, and all the faithful to the holy church, to whom this charter shall come, health: know ye that whereas our Sovereign Lord King Henry gave to me in fee the manor of Berchalle, and all Berchalleirenesse and all that belong to the same, and by his deed hath confirmed the same with all the privileges thereto belonging, with its appurtenances both in churches, woods, meadows, pastures, and in

all

\* Ex ipso autographo in armario cartarum prænobilis Georgii Domini Berkley, apud Berkley castrum.



all other things, as they were in the time of his grandfather King Henry. I therefore with the full assent and consent of the said Lord my King have given and granted to the church of St. Augustin of Bristol, and to the canons regular there serving God, for the health of my own soul and the souls of my King, my ancestors, my wife, and children all those churches belonging to Berchaleirnesse, (to wit) the church of Berchallé, Were, Beverstan, Effelward and Almodesbury, with all chapels, lands, and privileges, with the appurtenances to those churches belonging, to be held in free and perpetual alms, no right being retained by me or my heirs in or to the said churches, when they become vacant: I have likewise given and granted all the churches belonging to Berchaleirnesse, wherever they shall be, with the chapels and all their appurtenances to the said canons in perpetual alms, confirming the same by this charter. These being witnesses: Henry Dean of Moreton and Maurice his brother, Girald, the parson of the church of Cam, W. of Saltmarsh, Adam his brother, Heli the son of Harding, Richard the secretary, and Alan of Bedminster.

[This deed is of about the year 1148. Bishop Tanner, in his *Notitia Monastica*, p. 480. thinks this is the foundation charter.]

The other following deeds, public records, books, &c. as quoted by Bishop Tanner, in the *Notitia Monastica*, (edition by J. Nafinith, A. M.) give a full and satisfactory account of many particulars of the history, endowments, rights, advowsons, &c. of the abbey and bishopric, to which I refer.

Vide in *Monaf. Ang.* vol. ii. p. 232, 233, cartam Roberti filii Hardingi de fundatione\* prioratus: carmina quædam Anglic. de Roberto Harding. pat. 11, Edw. 2d. p. 2d. m. 29. per inspex. recit. cartas Henrici Ducis Normanniæ confirm. Almodesberiam, Wappeleiam, etc. Roberti filii Hardingi et Johannis com. Moriton.

In Willis's *History of Abbies*, vol. i. p. 225, &c. an account of this church, with a catalogue of the abbots,

I. L

ibid

\* Thus the title in the *Monasticon*. But this charter was not made till after King Henry 2d. came to the crown, and this monastery was certainly founded before his reign, he having whilst only Duke of Normandy made several donations to it, and declaring in one of his grants that this monastery "cepi initio juventutis mee fovere et juvare." — I rather think the charter of Robert Harding, *Mon. Angl.* vol. ii. p. 232, b. lib. 64, is the foundation charter.



ibid p. 324, and App. p. 65, 66.

In his Survey of Cathedrals, vol. i. p. 758, a further account of this church, an account of persons buried there, of the endowment of the bishopric and chapter, with a catalogue of the bishops, deans, archdeacons, and prebendaries, and the names of all the parishes in the diocese, &c.

In Le Neve's Fasti, p. 48, the succession of the bishops, deans, archdeacons, and prebendaries of this cathedral.

In Rilcii Plac. Parliam. p. 165, concordiam inter Bogonem de Clare et abbatem St. Augustini Bristol, 21st Edw. 1st.

In Dugd. Baron. vol. i. p. 358, 359, of a chantry, &c. herein founded by Thomas Lord Berkeley.

Year Books, 35th Hen. 6th. Mich. § 43. In Stevens's Supplement, vol. ii. p. 140, a catalogue of the abbots.

In Rymeri Conventionum, &c. tom. v. p. 246, pat. 15th Edw. 3d. p. i. m. 13, pro abbate, de non veniendo ad parlamentum quia non tenet per baroniam nec de fundatione regis \*

Tom. xiv. p. 748, pat. 34th Hen. 8th. p. 10, m. 26, de erectione episcopatus.

Tom. xv. p. 77, pat. 37th Hen. 8th. p. 9, m. 25, super distributione 40l. per ann. eleemosynarum per decanum et capitulum.

In Ryley's Pleas of Parliament, p. 165, between Bogo de Clare and the abbot of St. Augustine of Bristol, the 21st of Edward 1st.

In Ryder's Conventionum, &c. vol. v. p. 246, patent, 15th Edw. 3d. p. 1, m. 13, concerning excusing the abbot for not coming to parliament, because he did not hold the same, by reason of the barony nor as the foundation of a king.

Concerning the erection of the bishopric.

Vol. xv. p. 77, patent 37, Henry 8th. p. 9, m. 25, the distribution of the 40l. per annum in alms by the dean and chapter.

Ibid,

\* Printed also in Stevens's Appendix, p. 350.





Ibid, p. 370, commissionem ad deprivandum Paulum episc. Bristol, A. D. 1554.

Ibid, p. 459, pat. 3 et 4, Phil. et Mar. p. 10, m. 24, pro exoneratione Johannis episc. Bristol. a primitiis et decimis, ratione episcopatus.

Tom. xvi. p. 524, pro Joanne Thornborough episc. electo, decanatum et prebendam in eccl. Ebor. in commendam possidentes, eo quod episcopatus Bristol tam exilis est.

Registra, cartas originales, &c. penes R. R. dom. episcopum et decanum et capitulum eccle. cath. Bristol.

Registrum sive potius historiam foundationis hujus cœnobii a Joanne Newland abbate contextam, MS. apud castrum de Berkeley in com. Glocest.

Abbreviaturas quarundam concessionum huic abbatiæ in MS. Macro, 12, ii. f. 2, a. f. 18, a.

Fin. Buckingham. 5 Joan. n. 125, de terris in Finemere; fin. in div. com. 11 Joan. n. 55, de advoc. eccl. de Lanvernac, Glamorg.

Cart. 36 Hen. 3. m. 13.

Plac. in com. Somerset. 8 Edw. 1. assis. rot. 27, de c. acris terræ in Legh.

Cart. 13 Edw. 1. n. 15, pro mercato et feria apud Almundesbury, Gloucestershire.

The same, p. 370, a commission to deprive Paul Bush, Bishop of Bristol, in the year 1554.

The same, p. 459, patent the 3d and 4th of Philip and Mary, page 10, m. 24, concerning the exemption of John Bishop of Bristol from first fruits and tythes.

Vol. xvi. p. 524, concerning John Thornborough, his being elected Bishop of Bristol and his holding the deanery and prebendary of York in commendam, because of the smallness of the income of the bishopric of Bristol.

The Registers and original writings &c. in the keeping of R. R. Lord Bishop and the dean and chapter of the cathedral church of Bristol.

The Register or rather the history of the foundation of this monastery, by John Newland, abbot, to be found in the castle of Berkeley, in the county of Gloucester. (Manuscript.)

Abridgments of certain grants to this abbot in Dr. Macro's manuscript, 12. ii. f. 2, f. 18, a.

Certain fines in Buckinghamshire, the 5th of John, n. 125, of lands in Finemere: fines in div. com. 11 John, n. 55, concerning the church of Lanvernack, Glamorganshire.

Pleas in the county of Somerset, 8th of Edw. 1st. in the rote of assizes the 27th, concerning 100 acres of land in Legh.

A deed the 13th of Edward 1st. n. 15, for holding a fair at Almondsbury, in the county of Gloucester

Ibid,



Ibid, n. 35, pro lib. war. in Al-  
mundesbury, Harfold, et Crumhole,  
Gloceſtr. Leye, Somerſet. Fifhide,  
Dorſet.

Plac. in com. Gloceſtr. 15 Edw. 1ſt.  
quo war. rot. 16, pro libertat. in Berke-  
lehernes, &c. pat. 23 Edw. 1. m.

Pat. 5 Edw. 2. p. 1, m. 22, pro  
eccl. de Wotton approprianda.

Cart. 11 Edw. 2. n. 17.

Pat. 4 Edw. 3. p. 2. m.

Pat. 8 Edw. 3. p. 2, m. 3, pro eccl.  
de Fifhyde.

Pat. 11 Edw. 3. p. 3, m. 32, vel. 33.

Pat. 18 Edw. 3. p. 2, m. 6, vel. 7,  
et m. 46, vel. 47, de excambio cum  
prioro S. John. Jeruſalem.

Pat. 26 Edw. 3. p. 1. m. 10.

Pat. 26 Edw. 3. p. 3, m. de Claven-  
ſwell. eſcaet. Somerſet. 27 Edw. 3.  
n. 52.

Pat. 32 Edw. 3. p. 2, m. 12.

Pat. 40 Edw. 3. p. 1. m. 35, vel. 36.

Eſcaet. Gloceſtr. 45 Edw. 3. n. 72.

Eſcaet. Dorſet. 49 Edw. 3. p. 2,  
n. 46.

Pat. 20 Rich. 2. p. 2. m. 11, de ter-  
ris, paſturis, et boſcis, in Berkeley,  
Gloceſtr.

Ibid, m. 22, pro eccl. de Fifhide  
approprianda.

Pat. 12. Edw. 4. p. 1, m. 15.

Ibid, p. 2, m. 16 et 24, rec. in  
ſcacc. 16 Hen. 8. Mich. rot. 10.

The ſame, n. 35, for a free War-  
ren in Almonſbury, Horfield, and  
Cromhole, in the county of Gloceſter,  
Leye, in the county of Somerſet, and  
Fifhead, in Dorſetſhire.

Pleas in the county of Gloceſter the  
15th of Edward 1ſt. by which are war-  
ranted certain privileges, roll the 16th  
in the hundred of Berkeley, &c.  
Patent the 23d of Edw. 1ſt. m.

Patent 5th Edward 1ſt. p. 1. m. 22,  
of the appropriation of the church of  
Wotton.

For the church of Fifhead.

Of an exchange with the priory of  
St. John of Jeruſalem.

Of Clavenſwell eſchaet, Somerſet:

Of the lands, paſtures, and woods, in  
Berkeley, Gloceſterſhire.

Of appropriating Fifhead,



Pat. 34 Hen. 8. p. 10, (10 Jun.) pro  
dotatione episcopatus.

Ibid, (Nov. 28.) pro dotatione de-  
cani et capituli.

In Atkyns's Gloucestershire, p. 212,  
manor and advowson of Almondsbury,  
of Ashelworth, p. 222, Arlingham,  
&c. &c. &c.

In Hutchin's Dorsetshire, vol. ii.  
p. 301, advowson of Fyfehead, and  
lands in G. Kington.

In Adam Domerham, p. 197, pos-  
sessions of hujus abbatie infra bundas fo-  
restarum in Somerset.

In Dr. Archer's Account of Religi-  
ous Houses, p. 632, advowsons hereto  
belonging in the diocese of Bath and  
Wells.

William of Worcester's Dimensiones  
Ecclesiarum, p. 233, 289.

Leland, Collect. vol. i. 85. Itin.  
vol. i. 91, 94, &c.

Pat. 34th Henry 8th. (10th June)  
endowment of the bishopric.

Endowment of the dean and chap-  
ter, (Nov. 28.)

In Adam Domerham, p. 197, the  
possessions of this abbey within the  
bounds of the forests in Somerset.



## C H A P. IX.

*Of the BISHOPRICK of BRISTOL, its DIOCESE,  
CATHEDRAL, &c.*

THE Abbey of St. Augustin so liberally endowed, so powerfully protected, and so strongly secured by royal charters and confirmations, was now to yeild to the common fate of other religious houses which were seized for the King's use, though it was thought their riches were the occasion of their ruin, and their gold, jewels and estates were wanted to enrich the royal coffers; yet some plausible excuses were to be found for the dissolution; and the commissioners sent upon this business in many places probably had some just warrant for their proceedings, yet they often exceeded their commissions.

The low finances of the King and an exhausted treasury were the principal reasons of their using this violent measure; they cast about them in their necessities and here found a ready supply to their wants. But there are some causes that have been unnoticed, which surely contributed in their natural tendency to hasten and facilitate the dissolution, and abolish the monastic life.—The late great increase of trade and navigation, and the discovery of America not long before, and the advantages of a free extended commerce had begun now to open men's minds and to give a spring and activity to them unknown before, and to take them off from the quiet still life of contemplation and religious retirement. The monks themselves too grew less strict in their discipline, less observant of their rule, mixing more with the world, which was often complained of in the visitations of their houses by the bishops; their number being seldom kept up, in many not enough to make a convent, or society. — A busy life of commerce and attention to trade eagerly pursued would probably produce similar effects now, would soon supplant religion and banish it out of the kingdom, if our constitution of government in church and state were not so intimately blended, and our religious establishment not made part of the law of the land, so that one cannot long subsist without the other, but each now mutually supports the other, and will necessarily do so, and the Christian religion will thus continue in England ever to flourish  
in





in its purity amongst us. — Henry the 8th. whose profusion of expence and strong passions impelled him to take, and undaunted spirit and resolution enabled him to execute this bold undertaking, was a man of understanding and great abilities, and if we may believe his royal word, had some good motives in this ruin and desolation of monasteries, intending much the reformation of abuses, increase of religion, and encouragement of learning: — in erecting six new bishopricks out of the spoils of the abbies he gave some proof of these good intentions. His expressions in the deed of erection of the bishoprick of Bristol are very pointed: “*Divina nos clementia inspirante,*” &c. *i. e.* “Inspired by the divine clemency, We from our heart affecting nothing more than that the true religion and true worship of God may not only not be abolished, but that rather it may be wholly restored and reformed to the primitive rule of its own genuine purity; and having corrected the enormities into which the life and profession of the monks in the long course of time had most deplorably increased, (*exorbitaverat,*) we have endeavoured as far as human infirmity can provide against it, that in future in this same place instructions out of the holy oracles and sacraments of our saving redemption may be purely administered, the discipline of good manners be sincerely kept, youth be liberally instructed in learning, old age failing in strength be cherished with things necessary for their support, that alms to the poor may abound, and the repairs of highways and bridges may from hence be supported, &c. We have therefore erected this bishoprick, &c.”

Bristol was judged fit for this purpose, being a large populous place and convenient for honour and dignity with regard to situation, though part of the diocese is very far distant from the see.

For the foundation of it is taken chiefly out of Salisbury, by separating the county and archdeaconry of Dorset from that diocese; out of Worcester, by taking several parishes in Gloucestershire, (part of which lay in Bristol city, then in that county;) and out of Wells, which had three churches or chapels also in the same city. — The number of parishes in this diocese, which besides Bristol city contains the whole county of Dorset, are, as Dr. Heylin tells us 236, of which 64 are impropriated; though in truth it has 256 churches and chapels, of which 221 are in the county of Dorset in that archdeaconry, 3 in Bristol city on the Somersetshire side in the archdeaconry of Bath, and the rest in the deanry of Bristol; which deanry besides 15 parishes within the liberties of the city comprehends 17 more out-lying churches and chapels in Gloucestershire, most of which, though heretofore under the archdeaconry of Gloucester, (besides little St. Augustine's and St. Philip's in Bristol, which still belong



belong to the same archdeaconry,) are now subject to the immediate jurisdiction of the Bishop of Bristol and his Chancellor, and exempted from archidiaconal jurisdiction. The county of Dorset still remains under its proper archdeacon, who has these deaneries all in Dorsetshire under him, viz. Dorchester, Bridport, Pimperne, Shaftesbury, Whitechurch, first and second part; the two other deaneries are Bristol, (all of it heretofore in the archdeaconry of Gloucester and diocese of Worcester,) and Bedminster cum Redclift in Somersetshire, in the archdeaconry of Bath, (formerly in the diocese of Bath and Wells.) The clergy tenths according to Heylin's account amount to 353l. 18s. and a farthing.

## DIOCESE OF BRISTOL.

First Fruits.				Yearly Tenths.			
<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	
294	11	0 $\frac{1}{4}$	- Bishoprick of Bristol - - -	27	14	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	

The cathedral—dedicated to the Holy and undivided Trinity—olim the conventual church of St. Augustin's monastery.

N. B. The yearly tenths were altered by judgment of the court of exchequer Hilary term the 8th of Eliz. to 27l. 14s. 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. The patent of erection of this bishoprick bears date June the 4th, 1542, the 31th of Henry the 8th. as in Rymer, v. 14, p. 748. The deanry of this church is in the gift of the King, and not charged with first fruits and tenths.

ARCHDEACONRY of BATH, and formerly in the diocese of Bath and Wells; DEANRY of REDCLIFT CUM BEDMINSTER in the county of Somerset.

## CITY OF BRISTOL.

<i>Names of Churches and Chapels.</i>		<i>Patrons of Livings.</i>		<i>Religious House,</i> <i>To which anciently</i> <i>impropriated.</i>	
Value in King's books. Rated 1534.		Clear value as returned 1711.			Yearly Tenths.
<i>l.</i> <i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>		<i>l.</i> <i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>		<i>l.</i> <i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>	
3 4 2	St. Cross, alias Temple church cur.	33 2 8	City of Bristol,	Knight Templars,	0 6 5
12 6 3	St. Mary Redclift vic. St. Thomas, cap. Abbot's Leigh, Holy Trinity.	40 13 8	Prebendary of Bed- minster in the church of Salif- bury.	Prebendary of Bedminster.	1 4 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Formerly					



Formerly in the ARCHDEACONRY of GLOCESTER and DIOCESE of  
WORCESTER.

<i>Names of Churches and Chapels.</i>				<i>Patrons of Livings.</i>		<i>Religious House, To which anciently impropriated.</i>	
Value in King's books, Rated 1534.				Clear value as returned 1711		Yearly Tenths.	
<i>l. s. d.</i>				<i>l. s. d.</i>		<i>l. s. d.</i>	
4 3 4	All-Saints vic.	21 11 8	Chapter of Bristol.	Abby of Bristol.	0 8 4		
6 0 0	St. Austlin's the less vic.	5 10 0	Ditto.	Ditto.	0 12 0		
11 0 0	Chrifst-Church, alias Trinity rec.	3 8 0 0 6 8	City of Bristol. Ditto.	Priory of St. James, Bristol. Abby of Tewkesbury.	1 2 0		
	St. Ewen's, alias St.						
	Owen's rec.						
	St. James's cur.		City of Bristol.				
7 4 7	St. John Baptist rec. cum St. Laurence now demolished.	5 8 1	Ditto.		0 14 5½		
12 0 0	St. Leonard's vic.	4 1 5	Chapter of Bristol.	Abby of Bristol.	1 4 0		
6 0 0	St. Michael's rec.	5 18 11	City of Bristol.		0 12 0		
	St. Mark's cur.		Ditto.	College of the Gaunts in Bristol.			
7 0 0	St. Maryport rec.	6 6 10	Duke of Chandois.	Abby of Keynsham.	0 14 0		
21 1 3	St. Nicholas vic.	7 16 6	Chapter of Bristol.	Abby of Bristol.	2 2 1½		
6 7 6	St. Peter's rec.	0 12 5	City of Bristol.		0 12 9		
15 0 0	St. Philip and St. Jacob's vic.	43 16 5	Ditto.	Abby of Tewkesbury.	1 10 0		
16 0 0	St. Stephen's rec.	20 13 11	The Crown.	Abby of Glastonbury.	1 12 0		
10 0 0	St. Werburgh's rec.	33 6 8	Ditto.	Abby of Keynsham.	1 0 0		

County of GLOCESTER, DEANRY of BRISTOL, and ARCHDEA-  
CONRY of GLOCESTER,

20 0 0	Almondsbury vic.	40 13 10	Bishop of Bristol.	Abby of Bristol.	2 0 0		
	St. Mary.						
	Clifton cur. St. An- drew.	10 0 0	Rev. Mr. Taylor.	College of Westbury.			
7 0 0	Compton Greenfield rec.						
6 12 6	Elberton, annexed cur. to Olveston	46 0 0	Bishop of Bristol.	Abby of Bristol.	0 13 3		
	1770.						



<i>Names of Churches and Chapels.</i>			<i>Patrons of Livings.</i>			<i>Religious House, To which anciently impropriated.</i>		
Value in			Clear value as			Yearly Tenths		
King's books.			returned 1711.					
<i>l. s. d.</i>			<i>l. s. d.</i>			<i>l. s. d.</i>		
7	0	0	Filton St. Peter rec.	36	11	3	M. Brickdale, Esq;	0 14 0
30	0	0	Henbury, St. Mary, vic. cum. Aust and Northwick chapels.	28	4	6	{ Sir J. H. Smyth and Mr. Gores; Lord Middleton & Mrs. Colston. }	See of Worcester. 3 0 0
11	4	9	Littleton rec.	35	17	6	Lady Lippincott.	1 2 54
			Mangotsfield cur.	20	0	0	Late Mr. Dowle.	Priory of St. James's, Bristol.
			Horsfield cur.	3	0	0	Bishop of Bristol.	Abby of Bristol.
24	0	0	Olveston vic. St. Helen cum Cap de Olveston.				Chapter of Bristol.	Abby of Bath. 2 8 0
			Stapleton, Holy Tri- nity cur.	14	0	0	Tho. Smyth, Esq;	Priory of St. James's, Bristol.
6	0	0	Stoke-Gifford, St. Michael cur. this lies into two parishes, viz. Winterborne and Almondsbury, but is presented to by	20	12	5	Dutchess Dowager of Beaufort. }	0 12 0
			Westbury, Holy Tri- nity cur.	13.	16	0	Mr. Fane.	College of Westbury.
27	7	6	Winterborne, St. Michael rec.				{ St. John's College, Oxford. }	2 14 9

Of these churches above-mentioned taken out of Wells and Worcester diocese Anno 1542, all those of Bristol are subordinate to the bishop's chancellor, who institutes to them all, except St. Augustine's and St. Philip's, which with the out-lying parishes still belong to the archdeacon of Gloucester, though the remaining part of the diocese, which is entirely in Dorsetshire yet remains to that archdeacon as it did heretofore while it belonged to the see of Salisbury.

For that part of Bristol diocese that lies wholly in the county of Dorset, and the names of the several parishes, I refer to Eclon's Liber Valorum republished lately by Mr. Bacon under the name of Liber Regis, and to the Rev. Mr. Hutchins's History of Dorset.





## OF the CATHEDRAL of BRISTOL.

This church is dedicated to the Holy and undivided TRINITY; the seal of the Dean and Chapter formerly was The Trinity, the Son in the bosom of the Father on a cross with a dove at his ear; on the reverse the figure of Henry the 8th.—The gross impropriety of this representation of the Triune God, three agents in one Jehovah or Divine Essence, of the one God acting in three persons in the gracious plan and offices of man's redemption, induced them in 1624 to change their seal for three ducal coronets in pale, a saltier cross charged with three fleurs de lis and a portcullis. See the plate of the cathedral.—It has belonging to it a dean, six prebendaries or major canons, six minor canons or priest vicars, (one of which is to be sacrist,) one deacon, six lay-clerks or singing-men, one master of the choristers, one sub-deacon, six choristers, two masters of the grammar-school, four alms-men, one sub-sacrist or sexton, one proctor who was to be the virger, one butler, two cooks; in all 39 by Henry the 8th's. foundation: though the places of the inferior members being of small value are seldom kept entirely filled as provided for in the statutes, which are mutatis mutandis the same with those of Gloucester and others of the new foundation.

The first Bishop was Paul Bush, and besides six major canons or prebendaries, six minor canons were then appointed at ten pounds per ann. for each minor canon; 6l. 13s. 4d. for the gospeller and episteller; the same for each of the six singing-men, and 10l. for the organist. In the old liber valorum in first edit. the deanry was rated at 100l. per ann. and each of the prebendaries at 20l. per ann. but the reserved rents alone of the dean and chapter estates amount now (1788) to 845l. per ann. which however scarcely pays the present expences of the church and officers, the salaries of the minor canons, organist, &c. now advanced; but the renewals of leases of estates on lives generally produce near 200l. per ann. to each prebendary and 400l. to the dean, though the amount must vary every year.

Besides the salaries to the officers of the church, Henry the 8th. has appointed by the statutes of foundation 20l. per ann. to be given among poor householders and other poor people, and 20l. per ann. to make and repair the highways; and he made in 1545 the chancellor of the court of augmentations, and dean of the royal chapel, and their successors and others commissioners to see this and other like benefactions out of the new-erected cathedral chapters duly paid every year, pat. 37th of Henry the 8th. p. 9 M. 25, (Rymer. Fœd. v. 15. p. 77, 78, 134.) A declaration from time to time of the bestow-



ing and employing the said money in alms and highways was to be delivered yearly into the court of augmentations by order of Edward the 6th. the first year of his reign, and the commissioners were to receive from the deans and chapters yearly 40 marks for their care and trouble herein.

According to the statutes the above-mentioned is the number of the officers, and it is put out of the power of the dean and chapter (bishop or archbishop) to innovate or alter any thing contained in the body of the statutes, sub pœnâ perjurii & amotionis perpetuæ ab ecclesiâ nostrâ, (saith the King,) reservamus tamen nobis & successoribus nostris potestatem mutandi &c.

The dean, "Qui semper domi apud suam ecclesiâ præsideat &c." vid. stat. c. 4. et c. 8.

The six prebendaries, "Domi se continere & in ecclesiâ nostra semper residentes esse volumus." Stat. c. 12.

Six minor canons, "Quorum residentia sit perpetua, stat. c. 22. ad dei laudes in ecclesiâ nostrâ Templo assidue decantandas constituimus." Stat. 21. c.

One deacon, one sub-dëacon, "Qui evangelium & epistolam legent."

One præcentor, "Sit ex minoribus canonicis unus, officium ejus est in ecclesiâ nostra psallentes cum decano moderari et voce alios præcinere ac veluti Dux esse: absentias omnes notare: libros choro deputatos bene curare." Stat. c. 23.

Six choristers, "Vocibus sonoris et ad cantandum aptis. c. 25.

One organist, "Sit honestæ famæ, vitæ probæ, cantandi et organa pulsandi peritus, docendis pueris et divinis officiis cantandis studiosè vacabit." c. 25.

It no where appears that the King or his successors have ever dispensed with or changed this number, or the respective duties of the places; and the benefits resulting from the strict observance of the statutes would be many and great in this and every other cathedral church, the open violation of them in some and neglect of them in others have been known to contribute much to the very ill performance of the service, lessening the congregation, ruin of the houses, decline of religion and piety, neglect of hospitality and charity, and many ancient good orders belonging to the churches.

In the endowment of this church the bishop had a large though not a very convenient house appropriated to him, adjoining to the cathedral, which was formerly the abbacy or abbot's lodgings: it opens into the east cloister and consists of several spacious apartments, many of which were well repaired and neatly fitted up by Bishop Smalridge; since his time it was suffered to go



to decay, but a late worthy and generous Bishop, Dr. Butler, in 1744, had great part of it taken down and rebuilt, at the expence of near 5000*l*.

Many of the apartments are large and ornamented in a grand manner, and the whole house is now exceedingly convenient, by means of the prebendaries receiving certain lands of his lordship, which lay behind the south side of Trinity-street for their's, which lay contiguous to his palace: this enabled him to add to the palace a handsome garden and walks. The chapel which is in the house is also very neatly repaired, and wainscoted with cedar: it is very small, being only fifteen feet long and eleven broad; in the windows is a great quantity of painted glass, which was lately repaired, and there is more in other parts of the house yet to be seen, with the names and arms of two or three of the last abbots and the first bishop. The whole fabric is a handsome and commodious dwelling, which his lordship and the succeeding bishops have made their place of residence for about five months in the year, during which time once a week they keep an open table for all the clergy and gentry: and Bishop Butler, in expending so large a sum upon the fabric of the palace then going to decay, which he knew himself should not long enjoy, shewed his most noble and generous spirit and proved him worthy of his high office.

In 1744, whilst the palace was rebuilding a parcel of plate fell through the floor in the corner of one of the rooms, which by this accident was found to be decayed, and occasioned the floor's being taken up, when to the surprize of the workmen a room appeared underneath, in which were found a great many human bones, and instruments of iron, it was supposed to punish the refractory and criminals. At the same time was discovered a private passage to this dungeon, originally constructed with the edifice, being an arched way just large enough for one person to pass in at a time made in the thickness of the wall, one end terminated in the dungeon, and the other in an apartment of the house, which by all appearance had been used as a court; but both entrances of this mural passage were walled up and so concealed that no one could suspect it to be any other than one solid thick wall.

The deanery which stands at the west end of the church appears to be a good house: it was repaired in the time of Dean Creswick, and almost entirely rebuilt by Dean Warburton. The present yearly value of the deanery is estimated to be as good as the reserved rents of the bishopric. The six prebendaries have all houses within the cathedral limits, but not residing, they let them out at good rents. The minor canons and singing men are now destitute of habitations within the church precincts, though the chapter-books



for 1529, folio 33, mention the petty canons' chambers in the inner green near the dean's gardens.

The west and south sides of the cloisters are pulled down, the site and extent of them are still to be seen. The east and north cloister would probably have been likewise demolished, but that the first leads into the chapter-house and bishop's palace. What remains of the cloister is covered with a sloped roof of stone like a shed, which was not the original roofing, that being formerly of lead. The whole formed an handsome and elegant square, but makes now a very mean appearance; for in the year 1655, Walter Deyos being mayor of Bristol, the lead was taken off from the cloisters as well as from the cathedral, and deposited in the chamberlain's hands; but a stop being put to any farther spoil, an order was made the 8th of January 1655, that the lead removed from the cathedral and cloisters adjoining should be sold, and laid out in the necessary repairs of the said cathedral. Tolzey Book, p. 99. This was the second pillage this cathedral has suffered since the general sack in Henry 8th's reign. In the middle of the cloisters leading out of the church is an entrance into the chapter-house, which is a very elegant curious building, and has a very handsome stone roof of two arches, the pillars being adorned with curious twisted carved work in the Saxon stile of architecture, and it is in length 46 feet and in breadth 26 in the inside, and was as much in height till the floor was lately raised four feet by laying a deal floor above the pavement, to render it less damp and make it more convenient for the chapter's meeting upon business, which they now transact altogether here; and they have fitted up a press for their books and registers, and in place of the fine old circular window have put in four large modern sashes. There is set up over the door this inscription: "*Capitularis hæc domus reparata et ornata fuit, A. D. 1713, Honorabili et Reverendo Roberto Booth, S. T. P. decano, Jacobo Harcourt, S. T. B. vice-decano, Hugone Waterman, A. M. thesaurario.*"

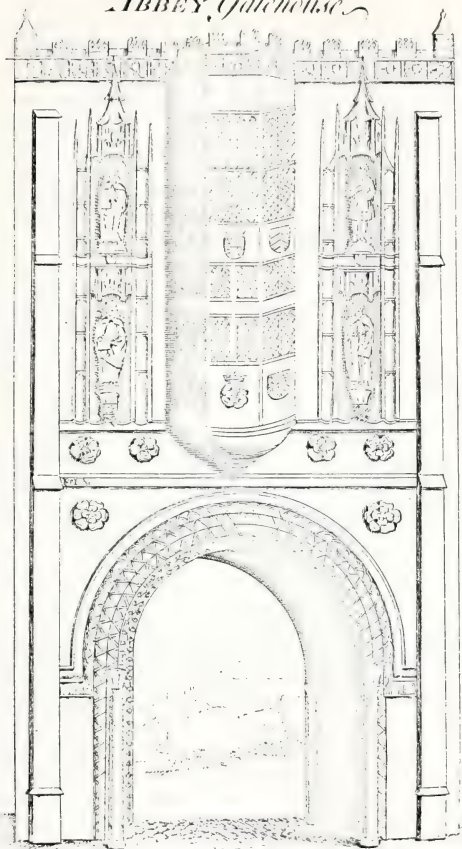
The square of the cloisters was 103 feet every way, there is a door yet leading out of the west part of the church. Adjoining to the deanery is a noble gate-house, remarkable for its well-turned arch and curious workmanship. (See the plate.)

This fine gate is in the stile of what Sir Christopher Wren calls the Saxon architecture, before the Gothic or rather Saracenic with pointed arches was introduced in this island after the crusades. The arch is of such curious workmanship, that words cannot possibly give any idea of it, the engraved plate but an imperfect one. The scrolls, twists, and other ornaments are so interwoven





*Abbey Gatehouse*





interwoven and intricate, that the eye is puzzled in surveying them, and is at loss where to fix and trace them out. The sweep of the arch is very much admired, though by the ground's being rose by time its height is less, and so the proportion of it originally is in some respect injured by it. It has been very well preserved, and suffered very little by time. The rooms over the arch are of much later erection than the arch itself, being repaired and altered by the abbots, particularly by Abbot Newland alias Nailheart, who was a great builder, and in compliment to the founder of the monastery placed his effigy, with a model of the conventual church in one hand and the foundation charter in his other, in one of the niches over this arch, with the statue of Henry 2d. next him, and underneath them and just above the crown of the arch the following inscription, in Gothic letters, rising out of the stone : " Rex Henricus secundus et Dominus Robertus filius Hardingi filii Regis Daciæ hujus monasterii primi fundatores extiterunt." There is no date, and had the inscription been placed there at the very time of the erection of the monastery, 1148, no doubt but the date would have been added. On the south side are the statues in stone of the Abbots Newland and Elliot, in whose time, 1515, the rooms over the arch probably underwent some great alteration, who then fixed up their own figures there, and probably the Latin inscription. Instead of the present sash window there was formerly a projecting bow window with small squares of glass leaded ; this I have preserved in the plate, as it was the original form of the building, and more suitable than the present ; and a kind of turret of old was carried up on the back part of it, which was the ancient stair case leading to the rooms over the gate ; this has been destroyed by building a handsome house on the east side of it. On the west side is a postern, now shut up and used by the dean for a coach-house ; over it is a room formerly the porter's lodge. There are several coats of arms carved in stone on both sides of this superb gate-house. On the north side at top is Edward the Confessor's carved, which points out the antiquity of this gate, and is preserved notwithstanding the alteration it has undergone ; next it the arms of England crowned, and Richard de Clare Earl of Pembroke's, being chevronée of fix or and gules, below Henry 2d. and Fitz-Harding's.

On the south side, besides the abbots in effigy and their arms under, are two figures above them, one the Virgin Mary and Child and the other I have not yet found the name of, nor of the two upper figures on the north side : they are abbots or noblemen who had been signal benefactors to the monastery.



In the rebellious time of 1641, among other ravages then committed and lands of the bishopric then sold was " the gate-house in Bristol sold March 6, 1649, to John Birch for the sum of 181. 13s. 4d." as the palace and park were at the same time for the sum of 240l. to Thomas and John Clark.

This gate-house was leased out by the bishop to the Rev. Dr. Sloper, rector of Spetisbury and chancellor then of this diocese, who being a very charitable man, among other benefactions, left to the mayor and aldermen of Bristol his house in College-green, &c. in trust out of the rents to renew the leases from the Bishop of Bristol, to Mary Hort his niece 5l. and the remainder to buy minion bibles, to be distributed to poor families by the alderman of each ward, the number to be in proportion of the size of each ward. This house was sold, the bishop refusing to renew the lives for the corporation, who then put it into Chancery, and it was bought out of Chancery by Hugh Grove, Esq; whose nephew has lately renewed with the bishop. The corporation had the purchase money, and now dispose of the bibles purchased by the interest of the said money every three years.

The monastery or conventual church itself, though not to be extolled for elegance and but a plain structure, yet being situated on an hilly ground, if now compleat as in the print, would present a striking front and elevation.

William of Worcester, who surveyed this church about the year 1480, gives the following measurements: " The choir of St. Augustin in Bristol contains in length 64 steps beyond the chapel of St. Mary. The breadth of the nave of the choir with the two aisles contains 50 steps. The length and breadth of the square on every side contains 22 steps. The length of frayer-house 26 steps, its breadth 16. The length of the *old church* 80 steps, of the belfry 24, its breadth 64 steps. The length of the chapter-house 56 steps, its breadth 18." In another place he mentions, " The church of the canons of St. Augustin. The chapel of St. Mary contains in length 13 yards, its breadth  $9\frac{1}{2}$  yards. The space or way of processions behind the principal altar before the chapel of St. Mary is 5 yards. The length of the choir from the reredes of the principal altar to the end of the choir contains 29 yards, beginning from the end of the aforesaid space. The breadth of the nave of the choir and the two aisles of the choir contains 24 yards. There is a decent chapel built on the north part of the aisle of the choir containing in length \*\*\* yards."

We can collect but a very imperfect idea from these vague measurements. (Vide the print or ichnography.) The present cathedral, deprived as it is of its western part home to the tower, consists of the choir and the two side aisles, all



all of equal height and part of the nave, curiously vaulted and the arched roof well supported, with a cross aisle, and so compleating but two parts of a cross. As it now stands unfinished, it is in length from east to west 175 feet, whereof the choir is 100 feet, but in its compleat state must have extended 100 feet farther westward. The length of the cross aisle from north to south is 128 feet. The height of the tower is 127 feet, which stands in the midst of this aisle (as it would in the middle of the church, if the western nave was finished) as it formerly stood. It has one singular beauty not to be met with in any other cathedral, namely, that the two side aisles are of equal height with the nave and choir, and finely arched and curiously supported, well calculated both for strength and beauty. The low side aisles of other cathedral churches take away much of their grand appearance and lofty look, so obvious in this at the first view. The breadth of the body and side aisles is 73 feet, and it is 43 feet to the height of the vaulting.

How the church presents to us this imperfect mutilated appearance now is a matter deserving enquiry. There is a tradition that the west part was demolished home to the tower in that great confusion in Henry 8th's. time, and the materials sold and disposed of, before that King had determined to convert it into a cathedral and a bishop's see. As there is no record to establish this fact, others have thought it was never finished: the builders of churches are said first to establish the whole plan of their building, then begin at the altar or east part, using that for the religious service till by degrees they could compleat the whole. Whether they stopt this building after finishing the tower is the question. That this is not the first church erected on this spot, or the same that was built by Robert Fitzharding the first founder, appears from a deed I met with in the Lib. Alb. Wygorn, 6. f. 20. for in the year 1311 the church of Wotton was appropriated by the Bishop of Worcester to the monastery of St. Augustin, which was then much decayed, and their revenue reduced by the expences in rebuilding their church, sumptuously built of old by their pious founders, but then through age for the most part pulled down and the remainder ruinous: in repairing which and in rebuilding they had spent much and ought to expend much more in the work newly begun. For the relief of these expences and their other great necessities, the bishop appropriated to them the church of Wotton, &c." (Dated at London, 11 kal. July, 1311.) The original says, "*Quod ecclesia ejusdem monasterii a piis ipsius fundatoribus antiquis temporibus ad cultum divinum opere sumptuoso constructa dudum propter ipsius antiquitatem et debilitatem pro majori parte funditus diruta, in parte residuâ gravem minatur ruinam; ad cujus fabricæ re-*

N N

taurationem





taurationem plures sumptus apposuerunt et ampliores apponere oportebit in opere ibidem noviter inchoato, &c."

In the year 1363, in the time of Maurice Lord Berkeley, the fourth of that name; a contributor, it was greatly repaired and partly rebuilt, as appears by another deed; by which it is clear, that the whole building and reparations it had undergone were not compleated till about that time, 40th Edward 3d. — William of Worcester mentioning the length of the old church 80 ffeles is another proof that there had been such an old church before his time, 1480, and before the present was erected.

In the lives of the abbots (p. 267.) it is said Edmund Knowles (who was abbot 26 years) begun building the present church anew from the ground, &c. and that he died 1332, which compared with the deeds above, dated 1311 and 1363, shews by the length of time the building was carrying on, that it must have been probably compleated in that time, and the ruins at the western part (where tenements with gardens were suffered to be erected to increase the dean and chapter's revenue) seem to prove that part to have been pulled down, and a large stone at the end of one of the garden walls evidently points out the extent of the whole building, and was the western boundary stone of this plain but magnificent abby church; but whether these be the ruins of the old or first built church, or of the later erected one by Abbot Knowles; may be still an object of doubt with some, and not easily solved by any. It is certain some remains of Gothic arches beyond the tower still shew the church was once continued to the westward.

The best idea of the fabric may be formed from a view of the copper-plate print, which represents it as compleat, though from the tower to the western end be at present wanting. It was at one time in very bad repair, but it appears that in the year 1670 1311 l. were laid out on the fabric and prebendal houses, and that in the years 1681 and 1685 in the deanries of Towgood and Levett 300 l. or more was laid out in mending the floor and beautifying the church, painting the east end of the choir and other works, and making a fine timber case for the new organ, erected by the contribution of the dean and chapter and many other well disposed persons in the time of Bishop Wright, about the year 1630, at the expence of 550 l. in the whole to Mr. Renatus Harris, organ-builder. The stalls of the choir, 34 in number, (17 on each side) are very regular, and fitted up about 1542, when it was made a cathedral, and have pews under them of a modern make. There is a grand seat for the bishop, erected by Paul Bush the first bishop, (his arms being on it) and another opposite for the archdeacon of Dorset. The floor is laid with black and white marble, and you go up to the high altar by steps of the same, where the

large



large east window is adorned with curious Gothic tracery-work, and glazed with painted glass, on the top the King's arms (Henry 2d.) the Berkeley's of Berkeley and of Stoke Gifford; also chevernois of 6 or and G. f. argent on a canton G. a rose proper, for Abbot Bradstone, also for Hunt and Elliot, also f. argent three lozenges in fess gules, also several figures of men with propheta wrote on them in a scroll.

Edward Colston, Esq; gave 260l. towards beautifying the choir and laying the marble about the communion-table, &c. Above the communion-table, and at the bottom of the east window, are a variety of painted arms with the letters W. B. interspersed, for William Burton the abbot, who is said to have built the altar piece, which was afterwards gilded and repaired by the Deans Towgood and Levet; on each side are two large shields of arms, Henry the 2d. and Lord Berkeley's on the right, King Henry the 2d. and Clare Earl of Pembroke's on the left.

In several places of the waincoat of the choir and on the front of the Bishop's seat are the letters T. W. twisted together in a cypher, which some say have been placed there in compliment to Cardinal Wolsey, but the truth is, they were for Thomas Wright, who in 1541 was appointed Receiver-general of the Chapter at their first foundation, and had the ordering of their officers and sitting up of this church for a cathedral, and took care to set up his cypher in all parts, as Abbot Newland and Elliot had done before him and shewed him the example.

In the North aisle is a curious painted glass window and another in the South, the first represents in different compartments the house of prayer, with *Domus mea domus orationis*, and driving the sellers out of the Temple; Our Saviour answering, "*reddite Casari; reddite deo;*" Jacob's ladder, &c. with coats of arms at the bottom: the second represents Our Saviour in the garden, his resurrection from the tomb, his ascension, Abraham about to offer up Isaac, Jonah coming forth from the belly of the great fish prepared for him, Elijah in his fiery chariot; these are said to be given to this church by Nell Gwyn mistress to Charles the 2d.

On the East and South side of the church is a chapel of the Virgin Mary; an arch adorned with shields with a chevron only, (the ancient bearing of Fitzhardings before they added the ten crosses pateee,) is now filled up, but when opened communicated through with the South aisle, and was the place of burial for some of the family; the very bricks on the floor of this chapel have their arms burnt on them and some arms of the abbots also; it seems to be appropriated chiefly to the use of the Berkeley family; it is now the vestry.

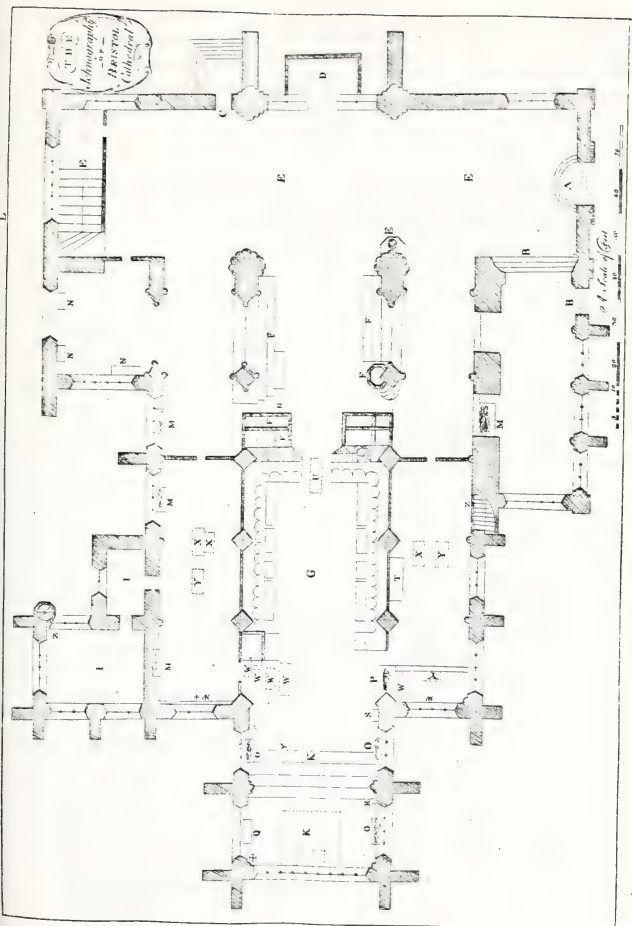


There was given to this cathedral some plate for the communion service the 10th of June 1710 by Lady Loyd, a silver patin gilt and silver chalice gilt, with the arms of the cathedral engraved on them: and the 3d of August 1712 John Rumsey Esq; presented to this church a pair of large silver candlesticks, very high and weighty, they cost him 114l. and were taken in 1709 by the Duke and Dutchess ships of war in their expedition to the South Seas at Paia by Capt. Woods Rogers.

The tower is a strong square building, not very high but well proportioned to the size and height of the church; in it hang five bells, the four least were cast by Abbot Newland, who died in the year 1515, as appears by the initial letters of his name upon them *A. N.* three of them bear these inscriptions, *Sancte Clemens, sancta Margarita, sancta Catharina ora pro nobis*, on the fourth is this, *Clara vocor & clarior ero*; the biggest has this date, 1570 upon it, 13th Q. Eliz. Here were designed to be five more as appears by five more vacant frames, out of which there is a tradition the bells were stolen, but others say, they were sold to the church of Redcliff.

The following Ichnography presents to the eye the inside of the present cathedral, better than any words can describe it, the letters of reference pointing out particulars. A. the great North door leading down steps into the cathedral out of the College-green, the ground having in time been greatly rose before it. B. The way into the Elder Lady-chapel and steps. C. The door leading into the Cloisters, Chapter-house and Bishop's-palace. D. The sub-sacrist's vestry built on the imperfect part of the church. E. The great cross aisle, font and stair-case to the consistory and register's office. F. The stone pulpit, seats of the bishop, dean, prebendaries, and corporation of Bristol. G. The choir with seventeen stalls on each side. H. The bishop's throne and the archdeacon of Dorset's stall. I. The vestry and sealing-house, formerly St. Mary's chapel for the Berkeley's. K. The high altar and steps to it. L. The site of the chapter-house, which opens to the Cloisters. M. Tombs of Lords Berkeley. N. Tombs of Sir Richard Newton, or of Judge Newton, temp. Hen. 6th. of Sir John and Sir Henry Newton. O. Tombs of abbots &c. P. Bishop Paul Bush's tomb. Q. Tomb of Sir John Young and his Lady. R. Monument of Bishop Searchfield and Dean Chetwynd. S. Codrington's monument. T. Tomb of Sir Charles Vaughan. U. The place of the founder's grave-stone now removed to letter u. W. Grave-stones of Bishops Howel, Westfield and Ironside. X. Grave-stones of Dean Tomson, Crossman and Towgood. Y. Grave-stones of prebendaries









boundaries Saul, Rainstorp and Towgood. Z. Stair-cafes of the church.  
 † Mrs. Weeks' monument.

On the North fide is a small aisle called the Elder Lady-chapel, in distinction to another Lady-chapel at the East and South end of the church.—This on the North fide appears to have been part of the old church before it was rebuilt by Abbot Knowles, being much lower than the rest of the church.—The style of the architecture in the pillars, ceiling and windows being quite different from the remainder of the church; and the name seems to confirm its antiquity: the chapel also where the Newton family are interred and chapter-house seem also to be of the old foundation; as do the Cloisters though altered, part of the Bishop's-palace and the building next to it, being the remains of the common hall, refectory or dining-room of the monks. From this specimen of the architecture in the Elder Lady-chapel we may form a good idea of the first monastery church; the neatness of the black marble pillars with which it was adorned, and the arched roof shews it to have been a very rich and elegant Gothic building. Though the fine arch itself of the gateway leading into the abby (now the Lower Green) was of the old foundation, yet the upper part over it appears to be of more modern date; the statues of the late abbots Elliot and Newland, alias Nailheart, with their arms being placed in niches over it are a proof, as before observed: they retained in the new-erected church as much as they possibly could of the old that would serve their purpose, though it was but little, without destroying the symmetry and proportion of the whole; yet there still remains enough to shew us that the present is of a new and later erection than the original foundation building, if records had been wanting to prove it.—In a manuscript of Bishop Littleton in the library of the Society of Antiquarians, is the following account: “The cathedral appears to be of one and the same style of building throughout, and no part older than King Edward the 1st.'s time, though some writers suppose the present fabrick was begun in King Stephen's time, but not a single arch, pillar or window agrees with the mode which prevailed at that time. Indeed the lower part of the chapter-house walls, together with the door-way and columns at the entrance of the chapter-house I should pronounce of that age, or rather prior to King Stephen's reign, being true Saxon architecture. The inside walls of the chapter-house have round ornamental arches intersecting each other like those in St. Nicholas's chancel, Warwick, which was part of the old Saxon nunnery church. The great gate-way leading into the College-green is round, arched with mouldings richly ornamented in the Saxon taste.—*Query*. If this part of the gate-way be not coeval with Fitz-



harding founder of St. Augustine's, temp. Hen. 1st. but the inscription and upper part of the gate where the images are placed are far more modern."

The College-green which fronts the cathedral and adds very much to the beauty of the place, is laid out in pleasant walks with rows of lime-trees planted round it, and is the residence of many genteel families, and resorted to by others for walking on account of its airy and delightful situation, (propter loci amantitatem, as expressed in a deed as early as the year 1259.) The Bristol High Cross, which once graced the center of it, (as appears by the little print annexed,) was removed from High-street hither, for the sake of widening the street and rendering it more commodious for passengers; and here it remained for years much admired by all, especially by strangers visiting this city, till wanting repairs from the injury of the weather, Dean Barton ordered it to be given to Mr. Hoar at Stourton, to adorn his elegant gardens, (where the dean's brother was rector of the place.) It is to be wished such a curious local piece of antiquity had remained still here and been repaired occasionally, as a monument of the piety and gratitude of our ancestors to the several Princes who had given charters of liberties to the city: vid. chap. on All-Saints parish.

This green, however beautiful now and the resort of the gay, the beaux and belles of Bristol to walk in as the Mall is in London, was formerly the common burying-place of the dead, called in old deeds the cemetery of the abbot and convent, by whom a solemn procession was usually made around it on festival days, and religious rights performed and sermons preached at the great cross (before the erection of the Bristol High Cross there) at Easter yearly and the three following days. There have been found here tomb-stones, and skulls and bones dug up when the new houses were built on the Gaunts side; and at digging up the old trees the 9th of Henry the 7th. the like bones were thrown up, and more lately in mending the walks and erecting the rails.

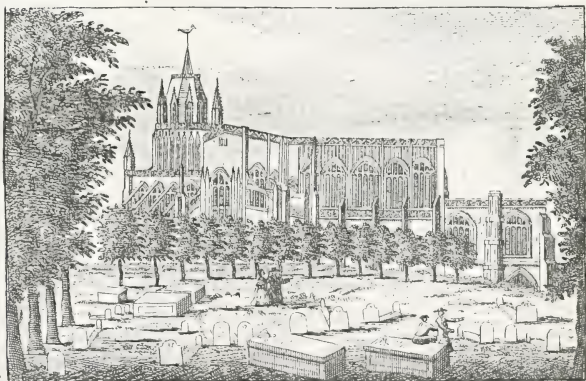
I proceed next to the monuments of this cathedral. The piety of our ancestors was such that they were not content to rely on their daily devotions and other religious acts in their life time for the safety of their souls, but they made what they simply thought a provision for their souls after their decease, by establishing chantries, obits, &c. whilst their children have receded so much from the ways of their fathers, that negligent too often of their religious duties to their God, they seem to pay too, too little attention or care for their souls even in their life time, much less take any thought for their souls or those of their departed relations or friends after their death. But they have been

more





*A VIEW of the HIGH CROSS and CATHEDRAL CHURCH.  
from the North side of College Green.*



*A VIEW of REDCLIFF CHURCH.  
on the South side with part of the Church Yard.*



more solicitous about depositing the dead bodies of their relations and friends, and erecting tombs over them; whether it be from a desire of conveying to posterity the names of their family, or from a religious persuasion and hope of meeting them again in another life, such monuments or memorials have their use and must not be condemned, as is too much the case in this age of levity and affectation of more enlightened understandings than their ancestors.

The monuments and inscriptions worthy of notice are chiefly the following :

On the north side in the Elder Lady-chapel, which is 50 feet long, 18 wide, and the same high, under an arch is an altar tomb with the statues in freestone in full length of Maurice Lord Berkeley and Margaret his mother, or rather of Elizabeth his wife, according to some manuscripts, with the family arms on his surcoat G. a chevron between ten crosses patee argent. At the head of this monument is the following inscription on a table under the arch, placed the rein 1742,—“To the memory of Robert Fitzharding, who laid the foundation of this church, he lies buried with his lady at the choir entrance, \* over whom in the arch of the door-way is a lively representation of the latter judgment. — The monument of Robert Fitzharding Lord of Berkeley, descended from the Kings of Denmark, and Eva his wife, by whom he had five sons and two daughters : Maurice his eldest son was the first of this family who took the name of Berkeley. This Robert Fitzharding laid the foundation of this church and monastery of St. Augustin in the year 1140, the 5th of King Stephen, dedicated and endowed it in 1148, and he died in the year 1170, 17th Henry 2d. From the said Robert Fitzharding Lord Berkeley Augustus the present Earl is the 22d in descent.”

Near the north door is a very elegant monument against the west wall for Mrs. Draper, celebrated by Sterne under the name of Eliza. Genius and Benevolence are represented by two beautiful female figures, in which the sculptor has exerted his utmost skill. The following is the inscription : — “Sacred to the memory of Mrs. Elizabeth Draper, in whom Genius and Benevolence were united. She died August 8, 1778, aged 35.”

Against the pillar near it is another with an inscription to Mr. Wallis.

In the north aisle are grave-stones with Latin inscriptions, to James Harcourt, prebendary, who died 1739, aged 59, and of his wife, who died 1733, aged 39, and four children.

Another to Richard Towgood, dean, thus : — *Hic situs est Richardus Towgood, S. T. B. hujus ecclesiae favente Carolo primo prebendarius nec non*  
parochiae

\* In the year 1684 Dean Thompson ordered the two large stones which once had brass plates set into them and were then much worn out, to be removed hence under the Dean's seat in the body of the church, where they may be seen in part now.





parochiæ St. Nicolai (dictæ) concionator egregius et frequens, et prædicam et scholasticam theologiam apprime calluit : utrumque nescias an melius intellexerit an candidius impertiverit : flagrante bello civili ab exulceratis civibus ecclesia pulsus est, et quod factioni displicuerit (cui nefas esset placuisse) in carcerem detrusus, restitutâ monarchiâ ad curam revocatus, atq; haud ita post favente Carolo filio ad Decanatûs dignitatem provectus est ; cui summâ cum prudentiâ et moderatione præfuit, insulam mervisse contentus. Postquam per totam vitam, erga Deum, regem, ecclesiam, patriam, se integerrimè gesserat desideratissimus senex (oraculorum sacrorum circiter 60 annos in hâc civitate laboriosus idem et fælicissimus interpret) dierum satur in cœlum migravit Aprilis 21, anno ætat. s. 89, Sal. n. 1683. Elizabetha uxor in eodem tumulto sepulta jacet quæ obiit Novembris 22, 1685.

Near this are the following : — Here lies Mary Blagdon, daughter of Elizabeth Towgood, wife of Richard Towgood, Dean of this church, who departed this life Sept. 1699.

Richardus Towgood, A. M. hujus ecclesiæ præbendarius Richardi Towgood ejusdem ecclesiæ Decani juxta inhumati meritisque laudibus ornati filius, paternas virtutes, pietatem, fidem, constantiam, hæreditario quasi jure vindicavit, perantiquæ morum integritatis vir ac per omnia tempora sui simillimus, desideratus est 11 Oct. anno ætatis 59, salutis 1713, cum eodem intumescens jacet uxor Elizabetha, quæ mortalitatem exiit 19 Augusti, 1726.

Near the above is placed the following inscription : — In memory of her renowned ancestors, Richard Towgood, S. T. B. Dean of this church the grandfather, and Elizabeth his wife, Richard Towgood, M. A. prebendary, the father and Elizabeth his wife ; Mrs. Elizabeth Towgood the daughter, and last of the family, caused this monument to be erected, who, having inherited the virtues of her forefathers, and exhibited the same illustrious pattern of unaffected piety, undissembled charity, and unfeigned integrity, to the 77th year of her age, followed them to the mansions of eternal rest Jan. 24, 1767.

Next the above is a pyramidal table on which is a bas-relief head of the deceased, and the following inscription : — “ William Powell, Esq; one of the patentees of the Theatre-Royal, Covent Garden, died 3d of July, 1769, aged 33 years. His widow caused this monument to be erected, as well to perpetuate his memory as her own ir retrievable loss of the best of husbands :

Bristol! to worth and genius ever just,  
To thee our Powell's dear remains we trust :  
Soft as the streams thy sacred springs impart,  
The milk of human kindness warm'd his heart ;

That



That heart, which every tender feeling knew,  
 The foil, where pity, love, and friendship grew:  
 Oh! let a faithful friend with grief sincere  
 Inscribe his tomb, and drop the heartfelt tear,  
 Here rest his praise, here found his noblest fame,  
 All else a bubble or an empty name.

G. COLEMAN.

Opposite is a neat monument;

"To the memory of Elizabeth Walfield, who died at the Hotwells the 26th December 1770, aged 60, wife of Robert Walfield, Esq; of Mile-End near London, this monument from a just sense of her merit and of his own loss is erected by her disconsolate husband.

Dear shade, adieu! the debt of Nature's paid!

Death's threaten'd stroke we parry'd but in vain;  
 The healing spring no more could lend its aid,  
 Med'cine no more could mitigate the pain.

See by her dying form mild Patience stand,  
 Hope, Ease, and Comfort, in her train she led:  
 See! gentle spirits, waiting the command,  
 Hush her to Silence on the mournful bed.

In vain with heartfelt grief I mourn my friend,  
 Fair Virtue's meed is bliss without alloy:  
 Blest change! for pain, true pleasure without end,  
 For sighs and moans, a pure seraphic joy!

When Death shall that new scene to me disclose,  
 When I shall quit on earth this drear abode,  
 Our freed congenial spirits shall repose  
 Safe in the bosom of our Saviour-God.

In the same aisle is an handsome mural monument with the following inscription:—" Mary, the daughter of William Shermon, of Kingston upon Hull, Esq; and wife of the Rev. William Mafon, died March 24, 1767, aged 28.

Take, holy Earth! all that my soul holds dear,  
 Take that best gift, which Heaven so lately gave;  
 To Bristol's fount I bore with trembling care  
 Her faded form; she bow'd to taste the wave



And dy'd. Does youth, does beauty read the line?  
 Does sympathetic fear their breasts alarm?  
 Speak, dead Maria! breath a strain divine;  
 Ev'n from the grave thou shalt have power to charm:  
 Bid them be chaste, be innocent like thee;  
 Bid them in duty's sphere as meekly move;  
 And if so fair, from vanity as free,  
 As firm in friendship, and as fond in love:  
 Tell them, though 'tis an awful thing, to die,  
 ('Twas ev'n to thee) yet the dread path once trod,  
 Heav'n lifts its everlasting portals high,  
 And bids "the pure in heart behold their God."

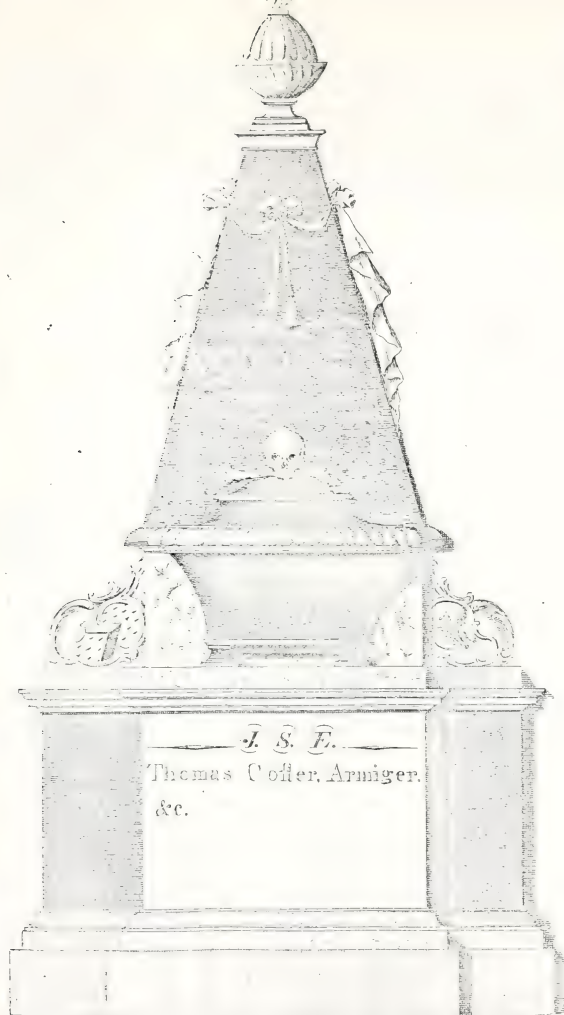
Next this is a raised tomb of alabaster and freestone gilt, with two marble pillars supporting a canopy; between the pillars is the statue of a man in armour: at the top these arms: *f.* a chevron between three children's heads couped at the shoulders argent, their perukes or, enwrapped about the neck with as many snakes proper, by the name of Vaughan: motto, "*Christi servitus vera libertas,*" with a long Latin inscription to the memory of Sir Charles Vaughan: — "*Sacrum memoriæ prinde ac honori viri prænobilis, cujus hic exuviæ repulverescunt, Caroli Vaughani equitis aurati, filii et hæredis Gaulteri, ordinis iidem equestris; ex antiquissima Vaughanorum Cambro-Britannorum prosapia oriundi, qui quadraginta circiter et septem annos in terris agens, postquam virtute suis præluxisset, eruditione doctissimis quibusque innotuisset, religione plerisque exemplo fuisset, amoris conjugalis specimen edidisset, munera publica integerrime obiisset, res privatas sapienter composuisset, ac animæ salutis imprimis consulisset; tandem, marcere et phthisi confectus, mori desiit, Februarii die sexto decimo anno spei suæ nostrumq; omnium per Verbum carnem factum adferte milleesimo sexcentesimo tricesimo MDCXXX. Expecto donec veniat immutatio mea. Job xiv. Omnia mutantur nihil interit.*"

On two tables under him are also the following Latin inscriptions:

*Vxores duxit primo Franciscam filiam Roberti Knolles, equitis aurati quæ genere formâ et virtute illustris verum moribunda deferuit mortalitatem; quo citius et Arctius Christo frueretur vitâ vitali, ætatis suæ anno vicefimo quarto et redemptionis humanæ 1614:*

*Deinde Dorotheam filiam Roberti Melleri equitis aurati, quæ marito charissimo mæsta ac (ni deus voluisset) invitè superflus monumentum hoc, quale vides, ad memoriam ejus, quam fieri potest diutissime conservandam propriis sumptibus poni curavit.*





*The Monument of THOMAS COSTER Esq.*





At the upper end of the north aisle is a very handsome monument to Thomas Coster, Esq; formerly member of parliament for this city, with the following elegant inscription. He married Astræa, daughter of Sir John Smyth, of Long Ashton, Bart. left one daughter by his first wife Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Rous, Esq; of Wotton-Underedge; she married Robert Hoblyn, Esq; of Cornwall, member for Bristol, 1742, and erected this monument to the memory of her father.

## I. S. E.

Thomas Coster, Armiger  
 Virtutibus tum privatis  
 Tum publicis præter cæteros insignis,  
 Suos studio et amore,  
 Homines quoscunque benevolentia,  
 Deum O. M. egregia pietate  
 Prosequebatur :  
 Ad variam scientiam,  
 In machinamentis præcipue et metallis,  
 Perspicaci ingenio,  
 Ad opes industriâ,  
 Ad honorem probis moribus,  
 Viam munivit.  
 A Bristolienfibus  
 Ad Senatorii ordinis dignitatem  
 Sine ambitione, sine invidia erectus  
 Eandem summâ fide sustinuit  
 Suorum civium et totius reipublicæ bono.  
 Natus Decembris 20, 1684,  
 Sept. 30, 1739; morte luctuosâ abreptus ;  
 Omnibus quibus innotuit,  
 Sui desiderium reliquit,  
 Illi vero longe tristissimum,  
 Quæ optimi patris memor  
 Virtutum ejus (quarum exemplar ut  
 Posteris quam diutissimè prodesset)  
 Memoriam, hoc marmore posito,  
 Æternam voluit  
 I. H.



Under the east window and by the side of Bishop Paul Bush is the grave stone of Thomas Westcild, late bishop of this church, with his and his wives' arms on the same; the inscription is in the account of that bishop.

The next under the north wall is: — "Here lieth the body of Mrs. Anne Throckmorton, daughter of Sir Nicholas Throckmorton, late of the forest of Dean, in the county of Gloucester, Knight. She died the 9th of December, 1698."

In the choir below the altar steps are grave-stones with these inscriptions, on a black stone by the door of the chancellor's stall: — "Quod reliquum est piissimæ virginis et charissimæ filiæ Hermiones, Thomas Goodman, M. D. pater, non sine multis lachrymis, sub hoc marmore deposuit: heu! nimis arcto carcere pro tanta virtute, cujus sedes est cælis. Placidè in Domino obdormivit 11 Aug. anno salutis MDCCXXIV. ætatis 27. Sub eodem marmore sepelitur Thomas Goodman, M. D. pater senex venerabilis octogenerarius

Gulielmo III.	} Medicus regius, obiit Dec. xxiii. MDCCXXXVIII.
Annæ,	
Georgio I.	
Georgio II.	

On an old white stone thus: — "Sub hac petra tumulantur ossa ..... quondam prior' ..... qui obiit vii. Id. Martii, A. D. MCCCCLXXVI. cujus animæ propitiatur altissimus. Amen." Another was, "Hic jacet Margareta Grene, mater Thomæ Grene, quondam canonici hujus monasterii quæ obiit ultimo . . . ."

On a black stone by the bishop's throne is this inscription, with his arms: — "William Bradshaw, D. D. Bishop of Bristol, and Dean of Christ Church in Oxford, died December the 16th, 1732, aged 62."

On the next is an old freestone with a black stone let into it, under which lies Bishop Thomas Howell, of this church, and on the black stone was engraven only this one word, "Expergiscar."

And the next is an old freestone, under which lies Bishop Gilbert Ironside, without any inscription.

South end of the chancel.

M. S.

Nathanielis Foster, S. T. P. nuperrimè hujus ecclesiæ preb. et paucis ab hinc annis C. C. C. Oxon Socii.

Dignus sane erat, qui multifariæ laudis exemplar debeat proponi; morum fideiq; integritatæ, quæ Christianum deceat, inculpatus; eruditione, quæ theologum ornet, instructissimus; optimarumq; artium cognitione accuratâ præcellens.



lens. Eximiam linguarum peritiam eo unice direxit, ut infitam cuilibet genti indolem penitus inspiceret, proprium scriptori cuiq. ingenium certiùs erueret puramq; ex ipso fonte derivaret sacri codicis simplicitatem: hinc naturâ sagax, doctrinâ folers humanæ mentis explorator, philosophorum veterum scêlas, primariâ quâdam placitorum communicatione sibi invicem affines, et in diversa paulatim diducas, scholarum discrimina præ ceteris calluit notare, et distinguere. Hinc porro reconditos Platonis sui sensus non ut plerumq; sit, leviter tantum perstringit; sed quod a Platonis olim amico et familiari quodam expectandum fuisset, specioso verborum involucri exutos coram lectorem sistit, fidus interpres. Ne talem virum non satis ob oculos haberint posterius, hoc amoris luctusq; sui monumentum exstare voluit uxor superstes.

Ob. 20<sup>mo</sup>. Octo. A. D. 1757. Ætat. 39<sup>no</sup>.

Under the stained glass window the east end of the south aisle.

In cemiterio hujus adis sepultus est Robertus Booth, S. T. P. Decanus Bristolis, filius Georgii Baronis Delameri frater Henrici Comitis de Warrington. Horum uterque sicuti dubiis admodum temporibus singularem patriæ fidem ac virtutem præstitit, ita ipse, ecclesiæ majorem, quam ab eo acceperat, dignitatem reddidit.

Verum inter plurimas ejus virtutes eminebat maxime profusa quædam in egenos liberalitas, quæ sacerdotem apprimè deceret, verè Christianum verèque nobilem. Nat. A. D. 1661, Ob. A. D. 1720, Dec. Bristol, A. D. 1708.

In the South aisle.

Sacred to the memory of the Rev. Samuel Love, A. M. Fellow of Baliol College, Oxford, and one of the minor canons of this cathedral, who died October 18th 1773, aged 29.

When worthless grandeur decks the embellish'd urn,

No poignant grief attends the sable bier,

But when distinguish'd excellence we mourn,

Deep is the sorrow, genuine the tear.

Stranger! shouldst thou approach this awful shrine

The merits of the honour'd dead to seek;

The Friend, the Son, the Christian, the Divine,

Let those who knew him, those who lov'd him, speak.

Oh! let them in some pause from anguish say,

What zeal inspir'd, what faith enlarg'd his breast,

How soon th' unfetter'd spirit wing'd its way,

From earth to heav'n, from blessing to be blest!

This monument is erected by some intimate friends of the deceased, as a testimony of his worth and their esteem.

Against



At the upper end of the North aisle, in the wall is an arch wherein is a black marble effigy of an abbot lying in full proportion in his habit, with a mitre on his head seemingly as old as the fabric of the church. This was in memory of Abbot Edmund Knowles, who died Anno 1332, and built the present church (as it is said) leaving vacant arches in the walls to contain the effigies of his successors, and to hold other monuments in future for persons to be buried here. See p. 267.

Below and in the same wall over the bottom of the altar-steps is another arch, and therein the effigy of an abbot in full proportion in his habit, with a mitre on his head as the former, probably in memory of Abbot Walter Newbery, who died the 3d of September 1463. See p. 268.

Between the above Abbots, a little higher against the wall is fixed a small black marble copartment edged round with freestone, set in the wall in memory of Bishop of Rowland Searchfield, and Dean Chetwynd; the inscription is given in the account of that bishop.

At the upper end of the North aisle, between that and the choir, is a stone corps of Bishop Paul Bush, inclosed with wooden rails, lying on a low tomb raised from the floor about 18 inches, the tomb is composed of six pillars of the Ionick order, which support a flat canopy, the whole of freestone; between the pillars at bottom and round the verge at top is painted an inscription in black letters, to be given in the list of bishops.

In the South wall in the Choir, below the altar-steps, which are all laid with black and white marble, is under an arch the effigy of Abbot John Newland, with his mitre on his head, lying in full proportion as the other abbots; on a shield at his feet supported by two angels is his rebus, viz. an heart pierced through with three nails, alluding to his name, he being often times written Newland, alias Nailheart. For the further particulars I refer you to the list of abbots. p. 268.

A little lower in the place of the confessionary is a large handsome tomb with two men kneeling in armour, and a woman lying along before them, over them is a canopy supported by two black marble pillars, at bottom eight children kneeling with a desk between them, on a tablet above their heads this inscription:

Here lie the bodies of Sir John Young knight, and dame Joan his wife; she had issue by him Sir Robert, Jane, and Margaret. She was first married to Sir Giles Strangeways knight, by whom she had issue John, Edward, George, Nicholas,





Nicholas, Ann and Elizabeth; she was daughter of John Wadham, Esq; and she departed this mortal life the 14th of June 1603, aged 70 years.

In the South aisle under an arch of the thickness of the South wall, opening formerly into the vestry, is an altar-tomb covered with a broad stone at top, in memory of Maurice Berkeley, who died 1281, (being the second of this name,) his arms were formerly painted on the inside of the arch, also his arms with those of his two wives and that of King Edward the 1st. were carved in freestone on the inside next the vestry, now visible, but no effigies on his tomb now walled up.

On the other side of the vestry door lower down, in an arch in the South wall is the effigy of a man in armour lying on an altar-tomb, in memory of Maurice Berkeley the third Lord of that name, who died the 19th of Edward the 2d. 1326; his arms on his shield on his left arm.

At the lower end of the South aisle is an arch in the same wall with a like tomb, and the effigy of Thomas Lord Berkeley the first of that name in armour, cross legged, his arms are on his shield. He having offended King Henry the 3d. was obliged to enter himself a Knight Templar. He died in the 76th year of his age, and the 28th of King Henry the 3d. 1243.

In the South aisle Gilbert the 14th bishop of this church, for so he is called in the inscription, placed the following Latin epitaph to the memory of Alice Gliffon, who died the 24th of June 1662:

*In piam memoriam clarissimæ feminae Aliciæ Gliffon, filiæ Gulielmi Gliffon de Narnhill in com. Dorset generosi in avito hoc tumulo sepultæ Anno Ætatis suæ 48 posuit clarissimus conjux Gilbertus, hujus ecclesiæ episcopus decimus quartus, 24 die Junii A. D. 1662.*

Samuel Croffman S. T. B.

*Hujus ecclesiæ nuper Decanus Justorum resurrectionem hinc præstolatur: onus mortale deposuit 4 die Feb. A. D. mdc.lxxxii. Militiæ vero suæ 59.*

At the foot of the second pillar from the organ is, on an old freestone, "Elizabetha, filia Samuelis Croffman, hujus ecclesiæ prebendarii, et Gratiæ uxoris ejus; obiit Junii 21, 1668, Ætatis suæ 13. Spes et deliciae parentum: prævivisti, sequemur."

A little above Bishop Paul Bush is a handsome freestone copartment neatly painted, containing the effigies of a man in armour and a woman kneeling, having books before them under a canopy, being supported; under them are eight sons and nine daughters, in a table below is the following Latin inscription:

Generoso



Generoso viro domino Roberto Codringtonio, a Codringtonia, in com. Gloucestr, armigero, atauorum imaginibus splendidissimo, fidei morumque candore spectatissimo Februar. 14 post incarnatum Deum 1618 Ætatis suæ 46 ex hoc vitæ ergastulo emancipato: charissima conjux domina Anna Codr. ex qua 8 filios, filiasque 9. genuit

Am	}	oris	{	ergo	{	Monu	{	Menium	{	Mæssissima	{	Robertus Codrintoneus,
&						Muni				posuit:		Anagramma:
Hon	}											ore & Corde justus Beor.

Plangite; discessi; quin plaudite, vita beata

Est mihi namque solo, gratior inque polo.

Hic mens, hic soboles, volitatque per æthera vastum

Fama Codringtoni non moritura pii:

Os homini, domino patuit cor, conscia recti

Mens mihi, vel nullis contaminata malis;

Ore fui Justus; merces durabilis annis;

Corde fui Justus, præmia magna, BEOR.

At the top of all, this under the shield of his arms:

Fides	}	Dei	{	verbum	}	respicit.
Spes				præmium		
Charitas				servum		

Codrington, of Codrington in the county of Gloucester. This family was of good note in this county in the time of Henry the 4th. (vide Sir Robert Atkins's State of Gloucestershire, p. 391.) John Codrington Esq; being standard-bearer to King Henry the 5th. in his wars in France; and as it appears by the heralds books, was then armed in a coat with lions in the service of the said King in battle to watch and ward under his banner, and for the good services that the said John Codrington had done, or should do, and to the worship of knighthood, as it is there expressed, a farther addition was made to his arms in the 23d of King Henry the 6th. 1445.

Colonel John Codrington Esq; who married Elizabeth daughter of Samuel Gorges of Wraxal in the county of Somerset, is of this old family, whose only daughter married Sir Richard Warwick Bamfield of Pokimore in the county of Devon, Bart. Member of Parliament for the city of Exeter, and in the Parliament 1747 for the county of Devon, and his son Sir Charles Bamfield is Member for the city of Exeter 1788, and resides at Wraxal.—The said John Codrington Esq; was three times chosen Member of Parliament for the city of Bath, 1721, 1727, 1734. The great grandfather of the late Sir William Codrington of Dodington in the county of Gloucester, Bart. was a  
youngest



younger son of this family, he was Member of Parliament for Minehead in Somersetshire at the time of his death, which happened December the 17th 1738 at Dodington, and was succeeded by his eldest son Sir William Codrington the present Baronet, whose father Sir William was created Baronet April the 21st 1721, in the 8th year of the reign of George the 1st.

Anne the fourth daughter of Richard Samwell of Upton in Northamptonshire, Esq; by his wife Frances, eldest daughter and coheir of Thomas Viscount Wenman of Tuam in Ireland, married to Robert Codrington of Codrington in Gloucestershire, Esq; as may be seen by the arms and inscription on the monument: arms; argent, two squirrels sejant, addorsed, gules, by the name of Samwell. Crest, on a ducal coronet, or, a squirrel sejant, cracking a nut, proper.

Without the choir under the dean and prebendaries seat is an ancient large grave stone that had on it brasses.—*N. B.* This seems to be the only grave stone that had any figure cut on a brass plate in the whole church, it lay originally at the choir entrance between the abbot's and prior's stall, and was in memory of Robert Fitzharding Lord of Berkeley the founder, and his Lady, before it was removed hither.

In the great cross aisle and nave without the choir are many grave stones; one close under the pulpit in memory of Robert Perry master of the Bluecoat-hospital founded by Queen Elizabeth &c. which bears this inscription, Hic jacet Robertus Perry, orphanotrophii magister vigilantissimus qui mortem obiit Aprilis 29, 1652.

And this other on a black marble lying near the steps leading to the bishop's confistory, which is kept in a room above stairs:

Here lyeth the body of Geo. Smyth, late of North Nibley, in the county of Gloucester, Esq; who departed this life the 29th day of February 1712-13, aged 48. (with his coat of arms.)

There are also many buried in the nave or body of the church with the name and date cut in a white marble stone of a lozenge shape, fixed in the paving.

In a chapel at the lower end of the South aisle, extending itself equal with the great cross aisle, is against the East wall an ancient tomb of grey marble, it contained the effigies of two persons kneeling, and an inscription in brass underneath them, and their arms behind their heads, but it has been entirely taken away in the civil wars and there's no memorial to whom it belonged; however from William of Worcester it appears it was in memory of Sir Richard Newton Cradock, who died December the 13th 1444, being one of the



justices of the common pleas. This with the founder's grave stone is the only monument in the whole church that had in brass inscriptions or figures belonging to them.

This monument with two others that are in the same chapel were in the year 1748 repaired and beautified at the expence of Mrs. Archer of London.

The place where the brasses were fixed when taken away left impressions against the tomb, which when repaired was filled up smooth and thereon is now put the following inscription :

In memory of Sir Richard Newton Cradock of Barrs Court in the county of Gloucester, one of his Majesties Justices of the Common Pleas, who died December the 13th 1441, and with his Lady lies interr'd beneath this monument, which was defaced by the civil wars and repaired by Mrs. Archer sister to the late Sir Michael Newton of Barrs Court 1748.

His arms are argent, on A chevron azure, 3 garbes or.

Against the South wall in the said chapel are two handsome tombs, the first is composed of alabaster and freestone, and has at top three shields of arms; on one belonging to a man is 24 coats, and on another belonging to a woman 12 coats, and on a middle shield only two coats, viz. of the man and woman impaled.

Underneath lie the effigies of a man in armour and a woman in full proportion, and under them two sons and four daughters, above them is a tablet with this inscription :—" Here lies Sir Henry Newton of Barr's-Court in the county of Gloucester-Kt. who married Katherine the daughter of Sir Thomas Paston, of Norfolk, Kt. by whom he had 2 sons & 4 daughters; & when he had lived full 70 years religiously towards God, loyally towards his Prince, & virtuously towards men; ended his life in the year of grace 1599,

In assured hope of a glorious resurrection.

Gourney, Hampton, Cradock, Newton last,

Held on the measure of that ancient line

Of Barons blood; full 70 years he past,

And did in peace his sacred soul resign :

His church he loved; he lov'd to feed the poor;

Such love assures a life, that dies no more.

The other tomb below his is of freestone, in memory of Sir John Newton Bart. son of Theodore Newton and his Lady, Grace daughter of \*\*\*\* Stone Esq; who died without issue 1661. It is supported by two twisted pillars, having the effigy of the defunct lying in full proportion in armour with a truncheon in his right hand, over him is on two tablets painted against the wall the following inscription :

1st Tablet.





## 1st Tablet.

Here lyeth the body of Sir John  
Newton, Bart. son of Sir Theodore  
Newton, Kt. and his Lady Grace,  
daughter of . . . . Stone Esq; who  
dy'd without issue 1661.

## 2d Tablet.

He was a man of great courage, &  
the greatest loyalty to his Prince, an  
honour to his country, a credit &  
noble ornament to his name and  
family.

At top is on a shield these arms, argent, on a cheveron azure, three garbes,  
or. by the name of Cradock, impaled with the arms of Stone, viz. Parte per  
pale, or. & gules, an eagle displayed with two heads azure.

There is a shield here with 24 quarterings belonging to this family of  
Newton of Barr's-Court.

At the lower end of the South aile, extending itself equal with the great  
cross aile, is against the South pillar before the said chapel, fixed in the same,  
a handsome copartment of black and white marble in memory of Jacob Elton  
Esq; Captain of the Anglesea man of war of 40 guns, who was killed in an  
engagement on the high seas, his body was thrown overboard and the ship taken  
by the French the 29th of March 1745, the inscription is,

• Jacob Elton

Filius natu secundus Abrahami Elton Barti.

Rebus nauticis

A tenerâ ætate assuetus,

Et in classe Britannicâ, etiamnum Adolefcens

Navarcha;

Anno tricesimo secundo nondum peractô,

Dum contra Gallos

Prælio navali dimicasset,

Properatâ quidem,

Sed pulcherrimâ morte

Occubvit,

Die Martii 29<sup>no</sup>. A: D: 1745.

Qualis erat morum suavitas, Amici,

Quæ Humanitas et Benevolentia, nautæ,

Quam intrepidè et fortiter se gessit,

Ille Dies

Satis superque testatur.

Leve hoc Amoris suæ et Desiderii Monumentum

Vidua mæstissima

Carolina Filia et cohæres Caroli Yate

De Coulthroe in agro Glocestriæ

Poni curavit.



These are the principal monuments and memorials of the dead whose remains lie deposited in these sacred mansions. Our ancestors were very earnest in paying all due honours to good men departed, by erecting monuments and tombs over their bodies, and transmitting to latest posterity for our imitation the characters of the deceased, their piety towards God and charity towards their fellow-creatures by inscriptions to their memories, many of which as they are very learned, most of them instructive, and all convey some good lessons of piety, charity, religious devotion, &c. have their use in improving the minds of the living: though there may possibly be a mixture of flattery and human foible in some of those compositions.—As monuments express our belief of an immortality by shewing a regard for our departed friends, they should not be accused of vanity and ambition who pay that grateful regard to those whom they wish to meet again in another and better world: though this seems to be one reason why many worthy men and good families lie now a-days almost unnoticed in the repositories of the dead; a tacit confession also of the slight impression death and immortality make now on the minds of their successors.

Having thus finished the description of this cathedral church and all its parts, I shall proceed to give an account of its endowment by Henry the 8th. dated the 18th of November the 34th of Henry the 8th. A. D. 1542, out of the ruins of nine monasteries.

#### Value of the Rents.

General	-	-	£ 739	4	11
Reprisal	-	-	60	1	0
Clear	-	-	679	3	11

The following sums arise thereout (as appears by the rental) in this manner, viz.

#### Out of the Monastery of

	General Value.			Reprisal.			Clear Value.		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1. St. Augustin, Bristol, the Abbot	323	18	0½	22	8	3	301	9	9½
2. Michelney, Somerset, the Abbot and comit. Hertf.	-	-	122	8	9	13	108	12	6
3. Bruton, Somerset, the Abbot	88	11	4	-	-	-	88	11	4
4. Shafton, Dorset, the Abbot	77	13	1½	0	16	8	76	16	5½
5. Bath, Somerset, Priory	-	-	43	16	0	-	43	16	0
6. St. Oswald nigh Glocr. Priory Abbot	42	17	8	14	10	8	28	7	0
7. Taunton, Somerset, Priory	-	-	14	0	0	-	14	0	0
8. Frithelstoke, Devonshire, Prior	18	0	0	8	9	1	9	10	11
9. Bradenstok Com. Wilts, Prior	8	0	0	-	-	-	8	0	0
Total	-	-	739	4	11	60	679	3	11

The



The particulars of each of these, viz. where they lie, and from whence the rents issue, may be seen in the following order:

No. I. The Rents of the Monastery of St. Augustin in six counties.

1. Bristol.

	General Value.			Reprisal.			Clear Value.		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Rents in and about the town	101	6	0	13	7	4	87	18	8
Penfions out of rectories	6	8	8				6	8	8—94 7 4

2. Gloucester.

1. Southerney manor	9	1	0	0	6	8	8	14	4
2. Blackfworth manor	7	0	9	0	10	0	6	10	9
3. Codrington manor -	6	13	4						
4. Rectory of Wap- ley -	4	13	4						
5. Erlingham manor	5	17	4						
6. Henton de Ever- inghill -	0	2	0						
7. Bradley tene. Witton -	3	6	8—20	12	8	3 6 8	17	6	0
8. Berkeley-Hernis rectory	65	6	8				65	6	8
9. Clifton tenement*	-	1	0	8			1	0	8—98 18 5

3. Somerset.

1. Wear rectory in pension and composition -	9	6	8				9	6	8
2. Tenement in Stanton Drew	0	12	0				0	12	0
3. Three shops in Bath, rent	0	5	0				0	5	0—10 3 8

4. Devon.

1. Halberton manor -	15	15	8½	1	6	8	14	9	0½
2. The rectory there -	33	0	0				33	0	0—47 9 0½

5. Glamorgan.

1. Penarth manor, with the great tithes -	19	9	11	0	10	0	18	19	11—18 19 11
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6. Wentlock, Monmouth.

1. Peterston manor, with the rectory of Kemney with its appurtenances, also St. Melo	34	12	4	3	0	11	31	11	5—31 11 5
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Total sum 323 18 0½ 22 8 3 301 9 9½ No.

\* Clifton one acre of pasture worth 11. 10s. per annum, encompassed with several lands of  
idow Jane Wilfon, and now in the occupation of Mr. William Hodges. See the survey  
699, fol. 30.—Three acres and a half in Clifton were granted by Abbot Burton, see chapter  
lib. 1, fol. Penultima.



No. II. Out of the monastery of Mochelney the rents are in two counties.

1. Buckingham.

	General Value.			Rents.			Clear Value.		
	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.
1. Seymour Court messuage in Marlo - -	7	2	5				7	2	5

2. Somerset.

1. Abbot's Isle rectory with Stewnly - -	6	0	0	0	9	11½	5	10	0½
2. Meriot rectory -	12	1	0				12	1	0
3. Ilminster rectory, 20l. cum Horton, 1l. 5s. Ilcombe 2l. os. - -	23	5	0				23	5	0
4. Somerton rectory -	44	13	4	6	16	4	37	17	0
5. Fifehead rectory -	4	0	0	0	9	11½	3	10	0½
6. Drayton with the tythes of the lands 12 2 0 Of the de- mean lands of Westover 2 13 4									
7. Mortontythes 1 5 0—22 0 4				6	0	0	16	0	4
8. Mildney in the parish of Drayton -	3	6	8				3	6	8
									101 10 1
Total Sum	122	8	9	13	16	3	108	12	6

No. III. The rents out of the monastery of Brewton are in the county of Somerset.

1. Rectory of Banwell with Puxton, Churchill	38	3	4			38	3	4
2. South Petherton rectory with four chapels annexed and Swell rectory	50	8	0			50	8	0
	<hr/>					<hr/>		
Total Sum	88	11	4			88	11	4

No. IV.





No. IV. The rents out of the monastery of Shafton in the county of Wilts.

	<i>General Value.</i>			<i>Reprisal.</i>			<i>Clear Value.</i>		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1. Tisbury rectory tythes	16	16	8						
The glebe or manor of the same rectory	3	9	10—20	6	6				
2. Bradford rectory, with the manor and four tenements	-	-	57 6 7½	0	16	8	76	16	5½
Total Sum			77 13 1½	0	16	8	76	16	5½

No. V. The rents out of the monastery of Bath are in two counties.

1. Gloucester.									
1. Olveston rectory	-	17	16	0			17	16	0—17 16 0
2. Somerset.									
1. Bath-Hampton rectory		10	0	0			10	0	0
2. Bath-Ford rectory		8	6	8			8	6	8
3. Bath-Wick prebendary pension	-	-	0	6	8		0	6	8
4. The vicar of Chew pension	-	-	7	0	0		7	0	0
5. Of Newton St. Loe, pension	-		0	6	8		0	6	8
Total Sum		43	16	0			43	16	0

No. VI. The rents out of the monastery of St. Oswald near Gloucester. are in the county of Gloucester.

1. Compton Abdale rectory	9	0	0	6	1	0	2	19	0		
2. Norton rectory	-	13	6	8	6	14	4	6	12	4	
3. Churchdean rectory with Hocalcot	-	-	11	1	0	0	14	4	10	6	8
4. St. Oswald's in four proportions, or St. Ka- therine's rectory	-	7	5	4	1	1	0	6	4	4	



	<i>General Value.</i> l. s. d.	<i>Reprisal.</i> l. s. d.	<i>Clear Value.</i> l. s. d.	l. s. d.
5. A pension out of the rectory of Widcombe	0 13 4		0 13 4	
6. A pension out of the rectory of Laffenden	0 8 0		0 8 0	
7. For tythes out of lands of Northcerney -	1 3 4		1 3 4	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	28 7 0
Total Sum	42 17 8	14 10 8	28 7 0	

No. VII. Out of the monastery of Taunton in the county of Somerset.

1. Kingston rectory	14 0 0	14 0 0
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No. VIII. Out of the monastery of Frethil Stoke in the county of Devon.

1. Brodwoodwiger with Week -	18 0 0	8 9 1	9 10 11
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No. IX. Out of the monastery of Braden Stoke in the county of Wilts.

1. Marden rectory -	8 0 0	8 0 0
General Total Sum	£ 739 4 11	60 1 0 679 3 11

From these clearly appear the rents granted by King Henry to this church from the said nine monasteries, all lying within eight counties, (reckoning the county of Gloucester and the city as one) and in these eight only the rents arise.

1. In the county of Buckingham. l. s. d.

From the monastery of Mechelney -	-	7 2 5
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2. Glamorgan.

From the monastery of St. Augustin -	18 19 11
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3. Wentlock als. Monmouth.

From the monastery of St. Augustin -	31 11 5
--------------------------------------	---------

4. Devon, from the monastery of

1. St. Augustin -	-	47 9 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
2. Frithelstoke -	-	9 10 11 — 56 19 11 $\frac{1}{2}$

5. Wilts, from the monastery of

1. Shafton -	-	76 16 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
2. Bradenstok -	-	8 0 0 — 84 16 5 $\frac{1}{2}$

6. Gloucester.



# 6. Gloucester, from the monastery of

			<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1. St. Augustin	-	-	98	18	5						
2. St. Oswald	-	-	28	7	0						
3. Bath	-	-	17	16	0	145	1	5			

# 7. Somerset, from the monastery of

1. Mochelney	-	-	101	10	1						
2. Bruton	-	-	88	11	4						
3. Bath	-	-	26	0	0						
4. Taunton	-	-	14	0	0						
5. St. Augustin	-	-	10	3	8	240	5	1			

# 8. Bristol, from the monastery of

1. St. Augustin there	-	-	94	7	4						
						679	4	0			

And lastly, in this order through every one of these counties enquiry may be made into each of the said rents, to wit, which of them in process of time is lost or diminished and which encreased and enlarged, so that by this means the true value and state of the whole may be known, according to which method and distinction by counties (in the order in which they are above placed) the treasurer's accounts of the yearly rents (hitherto kept in a most confused or rather no order) may for the future be made up with great ease and clearness.

Besides these rents so recovered by the royal letters patent to the dean and chapter of this church (or rather intrusted to their fidelity) the advowsons, donations, and rights of patronage of many churches are granted, of which

Some specially and namely, viz. from the monastery of

1. St. Augustin, Berkeley, Wapley, Halberton, Peterstone alias Kempney.
2. St. Oswald, Churchden, with Hocalcot, Compton Abdale, Norton, with St. Oswald.
3. Bath, Olveston, Hampton, Ford.
4. Bruton, South Petherton with Banwell.
5. Mochelney, Ile Abbots, Ilminster, Ilcombe, Horton, Somerton, Meriton, Fifehead, Mildney, and Drayton.
6. Shafton, Bradford, Tisbury.
7. Taunton, Kingston.
8. Bradenstock, Marden.
9. Frithelstoke, Brodwoodwiger.



In general of all the vicarages and other churches whose rectories are above granted to the same, but amongst those churches intrusted to them some have perpetual vicars, curates, and stipendiaries.

Some churches or chapels are annexed and adjoin to another parochial church, (as to the mother) the care of providing ministers of which belongs to the vicar thereof.

Others are not thus annexed or only providing ministers for them more properly belongs to them and their farmers.

But they are all situated in the following six dioceses :

- |               |                    |
|---------------|--------------------|
| 1. Llandaff.  | 4. Gloucester.     |
| 2. Salisbury. | 5. Bath and Wells. |
| 3. Exeter.    | 6. Bristol.        |

When the King erected the bishopric of Bristol, he grants to Paul Bush, Bishop of Bristol, all those messuages called the abbots' lodgings within the monastery of Bristol, to him and his successors.

And grants him the manors of Leigh and Rowborrow, in the county of Somerset, the rectories of Portbury, Clevedon, and Ticknam, and advowsons of the vicarages :

The manors of Ashleworth, Cromhall, and Horfield, in the county of Gloucester : lands in Slimbridge and Ailberton :

The rectories and advowsons of Ashleworth, Almondsbury, Ailberton, Horfield, Felton, and Kingweston, late parcel of the possessions of Bristol monastery :

The rectories and advowsons of St. Hurst and Minsterworth, late parcel of St. Oswald's monastery in Gloucester :

Rectory of Tockington, and tythes of Over Compton :

Rectory and advowson of New Church in the Isle of Wight, parcel of Battle abbey :

Rectory and advowson of Limington, in the county of Southampton, parcel of Christ Church priory :

Rectory and advowson of Buckland, parcel of Hedington monastery, in the county of Wilts :

Manors and advowsons of Fifhead cum Crockesworth, in the county of Dorset, parcel of Bristol monastery, habend. to the bishop and his successors for ever in puram et perpetuam clymosinam. Test, June 10th.

The value of those lands, in a survey taken about that time, I find to be thus rated :

Ashleworth.





	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Ashleworth manor, county of Gloucester	59	6	10
Cromhal manor, county of Gloucester	17	3	1
Horfield manor and rectory, county of Gloucester, cum Felton and Kingweston, in the said county	49	13	10
Alberton rectory, county of Gloucester	6	0	0
Almondsbury rectory, county of Gloucester	18	15	0
St. Hurst rectory, county of Gloucester	10	19	0
Minsterworth rectory, county of Gloucester	8	6	8
Leigh manor cum Membris, county of Somerset	56	3	1
Rowborrow manor, county of Somerset	20	3	5
Portbury rectory, county of Somerset, cum Tickenham and Clevedon	28	16	6
Fifhead and Crockeford manors, county of Dorset	39	3	0
New Church in Insula Vectæ (in English) Isle of Wight, in the county of Southampton	34	17	6
Limington rectory, county of Southampton	8	0	0
Buckland manor, county of Berks	23	4	11
	£ 380 12 10		

The whole of the endowment, according to the first valuation, amounted to

£ 383 8 4

The lands and bishop's demesne at Bristol not given in, in this particular making up, no doubt, the other 3*l.* odd shillings.

This was the first demand and settlement for first fruits and tenths, which are now reduced 327*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.* by the following alienations from Bristol bishoprick:

Paul BUSH, the first bishop, anno 4th of Edward the 6th. granted to that King the manor of Leigh cum Membris, by deed made May the 25th, 1559. In which the dean and chapter joined Sept. 21 following; and two days after, viz. Sept. 23, the King granted the reversion of it, after the death of Paul Bush, to Sir George Norton and his heirs for ever. From Norton's family it came to the Trenchards, ——. I find no other alienations in the patents, though the rents and fines may have been ascertained, and so sink the bishoprick; in which respect Bishop Fletcher is very much complained of tempore Eliz. This manor of Leigh, rated at 56*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.* reduced the value of the first fruits as above-mentioned, from 383*l.* to 327*l.* which are now paid.



Sale of the lands of the bishoprick in the Rebellion, anno 1641.

Horsfield parcel of the manor, sold March 1, 1647, to Giles Calvert and Adam Haughton, for	-	-	-	410	15	10
Bristol palace and park, sold June 22, 1648, to Thomas and John Clark, for	-	-	-	240	0	0
Misnore, Preston, Longford, and Ashleworth manors, parcel of the possession of Gloucester and Bristol fees, sold Sept. 28, 1648, to Alderman Towke, for	-	-	-	3819	1	0½
N. B. The three first belong to Gloucester, and only Ashleworth to Bristol.						
Fifhead Magdalen, county of Dorset, sold June 1, 1649, to John Aclyfi, for	-	-	-	1333	12	4
Cromhall Abbats manor, county of Gloucester, sold Sept. 28, 1649, to Richard Kirrington and Roger Cook, for	-	-	-	568	0	2
Horsfield and Filton manors, sold Jan. 30, 1649, to Thomas Andrews, for	-	-	-	1256	14	0
The Gate-house in Bristol, sold March 6, 1649, to John Birch, for	-	-	-	18	13	4
Parcel of Ground near Bristol, sold August 9, 1650, to John Lock, for	-	-	-	21	10	0
Rowborow manor, county of Somerset, and lands in Marton, in the county of York, parcel of Bristol and York bishoprics, sold March 21, 1650, to Philip Nye and Theophilus Archer, for	-	-	-	722	1	1
Total				£ 8390	7	9½

The bishoprick, notwithstanding some late improvements of the revenue by leasing out the park for building, which now brings in a ground rent of 70l. per annum, is not valued at more than about 500l. per annum; the Bishop of Bristol is therefore allowed to hold something in commendam with it, as the deanry of Christ Church, a prebend in St. Paul's church, London, or some valuable benefice.

The Bishop of Bristol collates to Dorset archdeaconry and Fifhead vicarage, county of Dorset, Almondsbury, &c, in all 14 benefices, which will appear more clearly with their valuation in the King's books, yearly tenths, site, dedications, and antient patrons, by the following table.



The following livings are in the gift of the Lord Bishop of Bristol.

The Bishoprick of Bristol \* was taken out of the diocese of Salisbury, except  
Bristol Deanry, which was taken out of Worcester.

*First Fruits.*

*Yearly Tenths.*

<i>l. s. d.</i>		<i>l. s. d.</i>
294 11 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	The cathedral church, (Holy Trinity, olim St. Augustin.)	27 14 4 $\frac{3}{4}$

The deanry of this church is in the gift of the King,  
and not charged with the payment of first fruits or  
tenths, (charter of erection June the 14th 1542.)

Deanry of Bristol.†

Livings discharged.

*Clear yearly Value.* Rectories &c. with the patron and proprietor.

40	13	10	Aldmondbury vic. (St. Mary) penf. abb. Sti. Au-		
			No. 1. gustini 10s. Bishop of Bristol patron and impropiator,		
			abb. Sti. Augustini Bristol, olim impr.	-	-
			Chapels, donations, and curacies.	2	0 0

No. 2.	Horfield cur. (Holy Trinity) 3l. certified value, abb.
	Sti. Augustini, olim prop. Bishop of Bristol, now
	impr. and patr.

46	0	8	Elberton, alias Aylbarton vic. or chap. in the county		
			No. 3. of Gloucester, Bishop of Bristol propr. and patr.	0	13 3
			Diocese of Bristol.		

Deanry of Shafton, Shatesbury.

*King's Books.*

Livings in charge.

7	0	0	Fishfield, alias Fifehead Magdalen vic. (St. Mary		
			No. 4. Magdalen) penf. abb. Sti. Augustini, Bristol, 60s.		
			fynods and proxies 3s. 4d. ecclef. Sarum 20d.		
			Mon. sti. Aug. Bristol, propr. Mr. Newman 1677,		
			Sir Richard Newman patr. 1725, Sir Robert		
			Smyth Bart. presented 1726, the Bishop of Bristol		
			impr.		

111

\* Bishoprick of Bristol.—The tenths were altered by judgment of the Court of Exchequer, Hilary Term the 8th of Elizabeth, to the sum of 27l. 14s. 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. as above. The patent of erection of this Bishoprick, dated June 4, 1542, 34th of Henry the 8th. may be seen in Rymer's *Fœdera*, vol. 14. p. 748.

† Deanry of Bristol.—This Deanry and two churches in the city of Bristol are still subject to the Archdeacon of Gloucester.



## In the Diocese of Gloucester.

<i>Clear yearly Value.</i>			Dean Forest.	<i>Yearly Tenths.</i>		
<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	Living discharged.	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
18	0	0	Minsterworth vic. * (St. George) - -	1	1	0
No. 5. Pri. Sti. Oswaldi, Gloucester impr. the Bishop of			Bristol impr. and patr. but let by lease to Mr. Pool,			
			and is only a curacy:			

## Deanry of Gloucester.

## Livings discharged.

37	0	0	Ashelworth vic. (St. Andrew) - -	1	2	11
No. 6. Abb. Sti. Augustini, Bristol, olim impr. Bishop of			Bristol impr. and patron.			
24	0	0	Santhurst vic. (St. Laurence) - -	0	0	0
No. 7. Mon. Sti. Oswaldi, Gloucester, olim impr. Bishop of			Bristol.			

## Diocese of Salisbury, county of Berks.

## Deanry of Abingdon.

## In the Arch-deaconry of Berks.

## Living discharged.

35	0	0	Buckland vic. (St. Mary) - - -	1	16	5½
No. 8. Episc. Bristol, modernus proprietor. pri. Edington in			Wilts, olim propr. Mrs. Mary Millington 1720,			
			by lease from the Bishop of Bristol.			

## Diocese of Winchester.

## Deanry of the Isle of Wight.

## Living discharged.

50	0	0	New-Church vic. (All-Saints) reprif. 21s. 4d.	1	4	8
No. 9. Mon. de Bello loco impr. Bishop of Bristol.						

## Diocese of Bath and Wells.

Deanry of Redclift and Bedminster, in the Archdeaconry  
of Bath, Somerset.

## Livings discharged.

12	6	11	Tickenham vic. (St. Quiricus and Julietta) prox. 5d.	0	17	6½
No. 10. Abb. Sti. Augustini, Bristol, propr. Bishop of Bristol.						
			The King by lapse 1753.			
23	18	7	Clevedon vic. (St. Andrew) - -	1	11	5¼
No. 11. Abb. Sti. Augustini, Bristol, propr. Bishop of Bristol.						

*Clear*

\* Minsterworth vic.—Sir Robert Atkyns says, “this is a vicarage turned into a curacy,” p. 557.





*Clear yearly Value.**Yearly Tenths.*

<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>				<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
27	15	8	Portbury vic. (St. Mary) prox. 6d.	-	-	1	1	1 $\frac{1}{2}$

No. 12. Abb. Sti. Augustini, Bristol, propr. Bishop of Bristol.

Deanry of Axbridge.

In the Archdeaconry of Wells.

Living discharged.

19	17	9	Rowborrow rec. (St. Michael) synods 2s. prox. 4d.	0	15	0
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No. 13. Bishop of Bristol.

Diocese of Gloucester.

Deanry of Campden.

Living discharged.

Rectories &c. with their patrons and proprietors.

29	4	6	Eburton vic. * (St. Edburgh) synods 2s.	-	0	18	11 $\frac{3}{4}$
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No. 14. The King by lapse 1714. Bishop of Bristol 1622,

1638. Abb. Bittlefden in Bucks, olim propr.

Endowments of the Chapter of Bristol, Anno 1542.

The King grants to the Dean and Chapter of Bristol and their successors, all the site and circuit of the late monastery of Bristol, except what was before granted to the Bishop:

The manors of Codrington, South Cerney and Blacksworth † cum pertinentiis, parcel of Bristol abbey.

A tenement and two closes in Westborne, lands in Clifton, and messuages in Bradley; lands in\* Henton in the county of Somerset, with other hereditaments in Erlingham, Wapley, Bradley, Goodrington, and Hinton, parcels of said abbey.

The rectories of Berkeley, Hinton, and Wapley, and advowson of the vicarages, parcel of Bristol abbey.

The rectories of St. Oswald, Gloucester, Churchdown, Hoculcot, Compton-Abdale, and Norton, parcel of St. Oswald's in Gloucester monastery.\*

Tythes of hay in Wike, Stone, Bovington, Bradston, Cadbury, Oldminster, Hamand Hill in Berkeley parish, late belonging to Bristol abbey.

Tythes of Twigworth and North Cerney, rectories of Widcomb and Laffinden, and two houses called the Almories in Bristol.

A distil-house

\* Eburton, alias Ebrington vic.—Sir Wm. Kite has given 10l. yearly to the vicar. Atkyns's Gloucestershire.

† The manor of Blacksworth with other things, was sold the 21st of March 1649 by commissioners appointed for abolishing deans and chapters &c. to the mayor and commonalty of Bristol, for the sum of 3838l. 1s. 2d. paid to Thomas Noel and William Hobson, two of the treasurers appointed to receive the same.



A distil-house and three mills in Redcliff juxta Bristol, and a messuage called the Boar's-Head in Bristol.

Three shops in Walcot-street in Bath, the rectories of Hampton, Olveston, and Ford, late belonging to Bath monastery, and patronage of the vicarages.

The rectory and advowson of Kingston, parcel of Taunton monastery.

The rectories of South Petherton, Lopington, Barrington, Chellington, Upton, Sevington, and Banwell in the county of Somerset.

The rectories of Abbat's Isle, Ilminster, Horton, Merriot, Ilcomb, Somerton, Fifehead, Mochelney, Drayton, and Moreton; advowsons of the vicarages, late possessions of Mochelney abbey.

Pensions payable out of the churches of St. Nicholas 4l. 6s. 8d. St. Augustine's 2s. All-Saints 2l. St. Leonard's 10s. and St. Michael's in Bristol 2s.

Pensions of Bathwick prebend, rectories of Chew and Newton St. Loo, parcel of Bath monastery.

The manor and chapel of Peterston in Wentlog, parcel of Bristol abbey.

Advowsons of Kempney and Peterston in the county of Monmouth, the rectories of Tisbury, Bradford, Winsly, Holt, Atworth, Wraxal, Comberwell, in the county of Wilts, parcel of Shaftesbury abbey.

The rectory of Marden in the county of Wilts, parcel of Bradenstock abbey.

Advowsons of Tisbury and Bradford manor, rectory and advowsons of Halberton in the county of Devon, parcel of Bristol abbey.

Rectory and advowson of Brodwoodwiger in the county of Devon, parcel of Frithelstock priory, with all their rights, privileges, &c. which belonged to the late monasteries, &c. and were parcels of the said manors, rectories, &c. here given tenend. to the dean and chapter and their successors for ever. Teste. Nov. 18th A. D. 1542, and the 34th of King Henry the 8th.

St. Nicholas 4l. 6s. 8. All-Saints 2l. St. Augustine's 2s. St. Michael 2s. these pensions are paid by the minister of each parish, St. Leonard 10s. per ann. is paid as a quit-rent by the churchwarden of the parish for the time being for a house in Fisher-lane.

The whole ground rents of the dean and chapter estates amount to 845l. per ann. which do not pay the expences of the church, fees of office, stipends to the several officers, canons, singing-men, organist, sub-sacrist, &c. amounting to about 1111l. per ann. besides the repairs of the church, &c. But the renewals upon so many estates upon an average bring in so much as renders the deanry worth above 300l. per ann. and each prebend above 150l. per ann. though it has sometimes amounted to 400l. per ann. to the dean, and 200l. per ann. to each prebendary, but the sums must vary. Lord Paulet for the



the tythes of Hinton and South Petherton, and for the manor of Halberton in Devon, offered 4000*l.* to put in two lives in 1776, which was under the value; he died 1788, by which those estates fell in to the dean and chapter.

Besides the following churches and chapels, they also formerly presented to Ilminster and Somerton vicarages in the county of Somerset, and to St. Melon's, but by not looking after their right have lost them.

The statutes of the foundation about the chapter, residence of the dean and prebendaries, and other officers, are the same with those of Gloucester collegiate church, printed in Sir Robert Atkyns's ancient and present state of that county in a large folio volume.

The following table gives a particular account of the livings in the gift and patronage of the dean and chapter of Bristol, their value in the King's books, dedication, tenths, &c.

### Diocese of Bristol, in Gloucester county.

#### Deanry of Bristol.

<i>King's Books.</i>			Livings remaining in charge.			<i>Yearly Tenths.</i>		
<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	Rectories &c. with their patrons and proprietors.			<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
24	0	0	No. 1.	Olveston vic.	St. Mary, cum cap. Olveston, St. Helen, pri.	Bath, olim impr. dean and chapter of Bristol,	-	-
							2	8 0
There was formerly in this parish the free chapel of Tockington, St. John the Baptist, which did belong to the abbey of St. Augustin in Bristol, and after the dissolution was given to the bishoprick of Bristol.								

#### Diocese of Gloucester.

<i>Clear yearly Value.</i>			Livings discharged in the Deanry of Dursley.		
32	0	0	Hill a donative	(St. Michael) abb. Sti. Augustini in Bristol, olim impr. dean and chapter of Bristol, now impro.	Sir Edward Fust Bart.

#### City of Bristol.

#### Livings discharged.

Rectories &c. with their patrons and proprietors.											
21	11	8	No. 2.	All-Saints vic.	dean and chapter of Bristol						
				propr. and patr.	-	-	-		0	8	4
5	10	0	No. 3.	St. Augustin's vic.	dean and chapter of Bristol						
				propr. and patr.	-	-	-		0	12	0



*Clear yearly Value.**Yearly Tenths.*

<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
4	1	5	No. 4. St. Leonard's vic. dean and chapter of Bristol propr. and patr.	-	-	-
7	16	6	No. 5. St. Nicholas vic. dean and chapter of Bristol Diocese of Salisbury.	1	4	0
				2	12	1½

Deanry of Pottern, in the Archdeaconry of Sarum.

Livings discharged.

40	0	0	No. 6. Marden vic. (All-Saints) archdiac. 4s. dean and chapter of Bristol impr. and patr.	0	17	9
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Diocese of Gloucester.

Deanry of Cirencester not charged.

No. 7. Compton Abdale cur. (St. Oswald) 7l. certified  
value pri. Sti. Oswaldi Gloucester, olim  
propr. church of Bristol patr.

Deanry of Gloucester, not in charge.

No. 8. Churchdown cur. (St. Bartholomew) 20l. cer-  
tified value, pri. Sti. Oswaldi olim propr.  
dean and chapter of Bristol patr.

No. 9. Norton cur. (St. Mary) 20l. certified value,  
pri. Sti. Oswaldi, propr. dean and chapter  
of Bristol patrons.

St. Catherine, alias St. Oswald's vic. demo-  
lished, dean and chapter of Bristol patr.

Diocese of Salisbury.

Deanry of Pottern, in the Archdeaconry of Sarum.

Livings discharged.

42	0	0	No. 10. Bradford vic. (Holy Trinity) with six chapels,* Archdiac. 7s. 6d. pri. Shaftesbury, olim propr. (vide Leland's Itin. vol. 7. p. 81.) dean and chapter of Bristol propr. and patr.	1	0	1½
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Diocese of Bath and Wells, Somerset.

Deanry of Axbridge, in the Archdeaconry of Wells.

Livings remaining in charge.

*King's Books.* Rectories &c. with their patrons and proprietors.

26	6	0½	No. 11. Banwell vic. (St. Andrew) with Puxton chapel (St. Saviour) abb. Brewton 20s.	-	2	12	7½
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Abb. Brewton propr. dean and chapter of Bristol. *King's*

Bradford vic. hath six chapels, viz. Westwood, Stoke (St. Edith), Winfly (St. Mary), Wraaxal  
(St. James), Aldworth, and Holt (St. Catherine).





*King's Books.**Yearly Tenths.*

<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
12	1	5½	No. 12. Were vic. (St. George) fynods 10s. 8d. ob. proxies 2s. abb. Sti. Augustini, Bristol, 9l. 6s. 8d. dean and chapter of Bristol, abb. St. Austlin, Bristol, propr. - - 1 4 1¾ Chapels, donatives, and curacies. Churchill (St. John Baptift) chap. to Banwell 16l. Puxton (St. Saviour) chapel to Banwell 16l. Deanry of Bath, in the Archdeaconry of Bath. Livings discharged.			
13	17	5½	No. 13. Bathampton vic. (St. Nicholas) fynods 2s. 6d. pri. Bath, impr. dean and chapter of Bristol. 0 15 8½			
25	3	0	No. 14. Ford, alias Bathford vic. (St. Swithin) proxies 10d. pri. Bath, impr. dean and chapter of Bristol. - - - 0 17 9¾ Deanry of Crewkerne, in the Archdeaconry of Taunton. Livings remaining in charge.			
24	0	0	No. 15. South Petherton vic. (St. Peter and St. Paul) fynods 2s. 3d. proxies 18d. ob. - 2 8 0 Abb. of Brewton, impr. dean and chapter of Bristol.			
<i>Clear yearly Value.</i>			<i>Livings discharged.</i>			
18	15	1	No. 16. Fifehead vic. (St. Martin) abb. of Mochelney, imp. dean and chapter of Bristol. - 0 14 3¼			
43	2	11	No. 17. Ille Abbots vic. alias Abbots Ille, abb. of Mochelney, appr. dean and chapter of Bristol. - - - 0 16 0 Diocese of Bath and Wells, Somerfet.			
40	17	0½	No. 18. Meriot vic. (All-Saints) fynods 12s. 2d. ob. proxies 13d. abb. of Mochelney, appr. dean and chapter of Bristol. - - 1 3 1¾			
45	9	3	No. 19. Swell vic. (St. Catherine) fynods 9s. 8d. ob. proxies 4d. abb. of Brewton, appr. dean and chapter of Bristol. - - 0 11 0½			



## Deanry of Ilchester, in the Archdeaconry of Wells.

<i>Clear yearly Value.</i>			Livings remaining in charge.			<i>Yearly Tenths.</i>		
<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>				<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>

10	0	0	No. 20. Mochelney vic. (St. Peter and St. Paul)					
			[a curacy only] stipend.* dean and chapter					
			of Bristol patr. abbey of Mochelney propr.			1	0	0

## Deanry of Taunton, in the Archdeaconry of Taunton.

<i>King's Books.</i>			Livings remaining in charge.					
<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>				<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>

18	7	11	No. 21. Kingston vic.† with Cutston chapel, synods					
			9s. 8d. ob. proxies 8d. priory of Taunton					
			15s. dean and chapter of Bristol, priory of					
			Taunton impr.	-	-	1	16	9½

## Diocese of York.

## Deanry of Bingham, county of Nottingham.

			Livings remaining in charge.					
<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>				<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>

15	2	1	No. 22. St. Michael's in Sutton-Bonnington rec. archiepisc. pro. syn. 6s. pro. prox. 6s. 8d.					
			dean and chapter of Bristol.	-	-	1	10	2½

## Diocese of Exeter, county of Devon.

## Deanry of Tiverton, in the Archdeaconry of Exeter.

<i>Clear yearly Value.</i>			Livings discharged.					
<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>				<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>

46	0	0	No. 23. Halberton vic. ‡ (St. Andrew) episc. prox.					
			2s. 8d. Archidiacon. prox. syn. and cath.					
			11s. 3d. dean and chapter of Bristol propr.					
			and patr.	-	-	3	2	0

## Diocese of Landaff, Monmouthshire.

## Deanry of Newport.

## Livings discharged.

<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>				<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
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20	0	0	No. 24. Marisfield, alias Merthfield vic. (belonged formerly to the abbey of Bristol) syn. and prox. quolibet tertio anno 20d. dean and chapter of Bristol patr. and propr.	-	-	0	12	3
35	0	0	No. 25. St. Melon's vic. (belonged formerly to the abbey of Bristol) syn. and prox. 6s. 11d. chapter of Bristol, impr. Bishop of Landaff.			1	0	1¼

*Clear*

\* Mochelney is certified to the Governors of Q. Ann's bounty to be of the clear yearly value of 10l.

† Kingston vic. is certified to the Governors of Queen Ann's bounty to be of the clear yearly value of 49l. 18s. 8d.

‡ Halberton in the original is called a rectory,—it was in the year 1725 augmented by the Queen's bounty, and the dean and chapter of Bristol and others.



*Clear yearly Value.**Yearly Tenths.**l. s. d.**l. s. d.*

10 0 0

Rumpney vic. (St. Augustin's) belonged formerly to the abby of Bristol, syn. & prox. 20d. Chapels, donatives, or curacies.

0 11 0 $\frac{3}{4}$ 

No. 26. Peterstone-Wentlog cur. (St. Peter) 12l. certified value, dean and chapter of Bristol impr.

N. B. The following livings did formerly belong to the abby of St. Augustin in Bristol.

Diocese of Bath and Wells.

Deanery of Poulet alias Pawlet.

Livings discharged.

47 14 11 $\frac{1}{2}$  Poulet vic. alias Pawlet (St. John Baptist) prox. 20d. synods 8s. 5d. ob. The King. Abby St. Augustini Bristol propr. - - -

1 1 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 

Diocese of Gloucester and Deanry of Gloucester.

Livings discharged.

30 0 0 Witcomb magna rec. (St. Mary) Abby St. Augustini in Bristol, olim impr. Sir Michael Hicks.

4 6 8

Deanry of Hawkisbury.

35 0 0 Wapley vic. (St. Peter) synod and prox. 8s. 8d. chapter of Bristol, (W.) Abby St. Augustini Bristol olim impr. Robert Codrington, Esq; 1705, tenant to the dean and chapter. - -

0 15 9

Diocese of Landaff and Deanry of Landaff.

Livings discharged.

8 0 0 Pennarth vic. alias Penmarth (St. Austlin) episc. &c.

Archdeacon 7s. 5d. Abby St. Aug. Bristol propr.

Thomas Lewis, Esq; 1716. - - 0 9 9 $\frac{1}{2}$

The liberal endowment and revenues of this church, we are told by Heylin, were very much impaired in the time of Queen Elizabeth, when for thirty-two years together it had no bishop but was all that time held in commendam by the Bishops of Gloucester, and it is now esteemed almost the least valuable bishoprick.

The pious Charles 1st. defender of the faith, and of the church of England by law established therein, the tenth year of his reign, made a very necessary provisional order for the preservation of the revenues of bishopricks, inserted at length in Sir Robert Atkyns's History of Gloucestershire. p. 12. " by which  
bishops



bishops were enjoined not to let any lease belonging to their bishopricks into lives, which were not in lives already, but that the leases should be for years; for by turning the leases of twenty-one years into lives, the present bishop might put a great fine into his own purse to enrich himself, wife, and children, and leave the succeeding bishops, of what desert soever to the church, destitute of that growing means which else would come in unto them: by which course if continued the bishop would scarce be able to live and keep house according to his place." This evidences the great care that monarch had for the good of the church and its right government by bishops. For "prelacy and under it a subordination of ministers in the church," Sir Robert Atkyns observes, "is highly becoming the Divine Wisdom, and therefore belief may easily be given to that croud of primitive writers, who tell us episcopacy was instituted by Christ and his apostles for the perpetual policy of his church. In human wisdom indeed it seems preferable to parity, and therefore it is natural to imagine, it was instituted by the divine. Parity is apt in all societies to breed confusion, which is the reason that many bodies of men have been forced for their own convenience or preservation to set one with more or less authority over the rest. In the very arts, sciences, and professions, we see a preference: the schools have their doctors, masters, and batchelors; the law its serjeants, barristers, and attornies; the camp its captains, lieutenants, and ensigns; the Romans their patricians, knights, and plebians; the country hath its nobility, gentry, and commonalty: and therefore since all mankind have, as it were, received these three degrees of subordination, we can make no difficulty to prefer the episcopal (especially if we consider its first original and high descent) before any other form of church policy, or to believe that the three orders of bishops, priests, and deacons, were a divine institution for the administration of the church," which being carefully vigilant over its own members of the establishment as to doctrine and discipline, and allowing free toleration to all who from tender consciences dissent, will thus ever flourish, the glory of this nation and the envy of others.

Bristol being anciently a part of Gloucestershire belonged with it to the diocese of Worcester, and the bishops of that see presided here, till itself being erected into a bishopric by Henry 8th. Paul Bush was appointed the first bishop, some particulars of his life I shall here give and some account of each of his successors in a regular order, as they were promoted to this see.





## BISHOPS OF BRISTOL.

The arms of the see are thus blazoned: fable, three ducal coronets in pale or.

1. Paul Bush, S. T. B. was a native of Somersetshire, and entered with the Augustin friers at Oxford in 1513, was of Wadham College, last rector or provincial of the order of Bonnes Hommes at Edington in Wilts, canon residentiary of Salisbury, and chaplain to King Henry 8th. who appointed him by his letters patent, 4th June 1542, the first bishop of this new-created see, and he received the temporalities of it, 16th June 1542, and was consecrated the 25th of the same month. He soon after alienated the manor of Leigh, near Bristol, a part of the endowment of the bishoprick, by which he deprived it of its best estate, to its great injury and loss. On Queen Mary's accession, having broken his vow of celibacy, and knowing himself obnoxious, he freely gave up his bishoprick 1553, and had the rectory of Winterborn, near Bristol, conferred upon him, having buried his wife that year. He built the episcopal seat and made the choir stalls in the cathedral, and died Oct. 11, 1558, aged 68, and was buried on the north side of the church, near his wife's grave.— He is said to have had great skill in physic, and wrote a treatise on salves and curative remedies. There is the statue of a skeleton, the emblem of mortality, lying on his tomb. He had a grant of arms by Christopher Barker, Garter king at arms, July 7, 1542, argent a fess G. between three boars passant fable, their tusks, hoof, and bristles or. on a fess, a rose between two eagles displayed. Vide Wood's Athen. Oxon. vol. i. p. 89. more of him. He has this inscription on his tomb: " Hic jacet Dominus Paulus Bush, primus hujus ecclesiæ episcopus, qui obiit 11 die Octobris Anno Domini 1558, ætatis suæ 68, cujus animæ propitiatur Christus.

Dignus, qui primam circum sua tempora mitram

Indueret, jacet hic Bristolienſe Decus :

A patre Bush dictus, Paulum baptisma vocavit,

Virtute implevit nomen utrumque pari.

Paulus Edingtoniæ his mæſſes prece ſecutus

Inſtituit populum dogmate, Chriſte, tuo :

Ille animos verbis, impenſis pavit egenos,

Hinc fructum arbuſto protulit ille ſuo.

Ut Madidis arbuſta juvant, ſic ſædere rupto

Inter diſcordes paciſicator erat."



On a stone in the choir near to his tomb was this engraved: " Of your charitie pray for the soule of Edyth Bush otherwise Alshely, who decessed 8 Oct. 1553."

2. John Holyman, S. T. P. a zealous Roman Catholic preacher and writer against the Lutherans, bred at Winchester school; in 1554, was promoted to the see of Bristol upon the deprivation or resignation of Paul Bush, and was consecrated 18th November. See more of him in Wood's *Athenæ Oxon.* vol. i. 91. Fuller commends him as peaceable and committing no bloodshed in his diocese. He died 20th Dec. 1558. Arms were, argent a chevron gules inter three roses proper.

3. Richard Cheyney, B. D. after three years vacancy of the see succeeded, which he held with Gloucester in commendam sixteen years. Camden says, he was " *Luthero addicissimus*;" whilst his successor to the see of Gloucester Dr. Goodman says, he was a papist with all his servants, and was once suspended for popery. He died 25th April, 1579, and was buried in Gloucester cathedral. Arms, chequy or. and azure a fess G. fretty argent. Vide Wood's *Athenæ Oxon.* vol. i. p. 592.

4. John Bullingham, S. T. P. retired beyond sea in Queen Mary's reign, and returning was 1567 made by Queen Elizabeth archdeacon of Huntingdon and rector of Withington and Boxwell in Gloucestershire; 1568 was made Doctor of Divinity, prebendary of Lincoln and Worcester. In 1581, Bishop of Gloucester, and had the see of Bristol given in commendam, which he held eight years; and it was then taken from him, and he had Culmington or Kilmington, in the county of Somerset, in lieu of it. He died 20th May, 1598, Bishop of Gloucester, and was buried in that cathedral. Arms, azure an eagle displayed argent, in his beak a branch of beech or. on a chief of the last, a rose betwixt two crosses bottonnee gules.

5. Richard Fletcher, S. T. P. bred at Cambridge. In 1583, was Dean of Peterborough and the prebendary of Lincoln: elected Bishop here 14th Dec. is said in Sir John Harrington's *View of the State of the Church*, &c. p. 25. to have taken this see on condition of leasing out its estates to courtiers, which he so extravagantly did that he left little to his successors. In 1593, he was translated to Worcester, whilst this lay vacant thirteen years. He attended Mary Queen of Scots on the scaffold, February 1586, and disturbed her much by officiously persuading her then to change her religion. At length marrying a second wife, Lady Baker, a very handsome widow, he grew very discontented through the Queen's displeasure, he died suddenly by the immoderate use of tobacco, 15th June, 1596, after having sat Bishop of London, where



where he had little enjoyment. He was buried in St. Paul's. Arms, fable, a cross fleury argent, four escalops of the second.

6. John Thornborough, at King James's accession to the throne, after ten year's vacancy of the see, was translated to it from Limerick, 30th May, 1603, with liberty to keep the deanry of York in commendam. He incurred some censure on account of a marriage. He was translated to Worcester, 17th February, 1616. Vide Wood's *Athenæ Oxon.* vol. ii. p. 1.

7. Nicholas Felton, was bred at Cambridge, a Norfolk man, rector of St. Mary le Bow, Easton in Essex, and Blagdon in Somerset, was consecrated Bishop 18th December, 1617, but translated the next year to Ely, and died 5th October, 1626. Arms, G. two lions passant in pale ermine ducally crowned or.

8. Rowland Searchfield, was of St. John's College, Oxford, consecrated Bishop 19th May, 1619, died 11th October, 1622, and was buried in Bristol cathedral. Arms, azure, three crosses bows stringed argent, a chief or. Vide Wood, vol. i. p. 622.

9. Robert Wright, was warden of Wadham college, &c. but marrying he resigned on the 23d of March, 1622, was consecrated Bishop here, and 1632 he was translated to Litchfield and Coventry. In his time the stone pulpit was made in the body of the cathedral, with the seats for the corporation opposite to it. Vide Wood, vol. ii. p. 654. Arms, party per pale or. and argent, on a chevron azure, three bezants between as many boars heads couped proper. Motto; Dominus mihi adjutor.

10. George Cook, was bred at Cambridge, consecrated Bishop 10th February, 1632, and 1636 translated to Hereford, where he died 10th December, 1646, and was buried there. Arms, parted per pale, ruby, and sapphire, three eagles pearl.

11. Robert Skinner, was consecrated 15th Jan. 1636, and kept Launton in Oxfordshire and Greens Norton in Northamptonshire in commendam with this see. In 1641 he was translated to Oxford, and during the times of the usurpation having suffered much he nevertheless continued to confer orders, and was the only Bishop that did it. He was translated to the see of Worcester, 12th October, 1663, and died in 1670, being buried in that cathedral with the following Latin inscription on a flat marble stone: — "H. I. E. Rev. in Ch. pater ac Dom. Robertus Skinner, Coll. St. Trinitatis Oxon focus, Carolo primo Britanniarum monarchæ a sacris, Doctoratum in Ss. theologiâ alumnæ matris diplomate oblatum sine ambitu cepit. a rectoriâ Launton diocæs. Oxon. ad episcopatum Brisoliensem evocatus, (tantus ecclesiæ filius meruit



cito fieri parens) mox ad sedem Oxoniensem translatus. Turre Londinensi a perduellibus diu incarceratus tam sine culpa quam examine exivit. A Carolo secundo ad sedem Vigorniensem promotus postquam prebyteris fanciendis affuctam dextram sufficiens præfulibz mutuam dedisset (eorumq; quinque a suo collegio *συνοχοις*) omnibus ante sacrilegam usurpationem episcopus superflus, Junii 14, A. D. 1670, Octogenarius ad summum animarum episcopum ascendit prius gratiâ nunc gloria consecratus." Arms, fable, a chevron or. between three griffins heads erased argent.

12. Thomas Westfield, S. T. P. was advanced to this bishopric, 28th January, 1641. He suffered much from the rebels, and had the profits of his see unjustly detained from him; though afterwards restored by a committee of the rebel parliament, being of such an unexceptionable character that when they restored to him his rights, the committee gave him a pass to go to Bristol, adding therein "that he was a person of great learning and merit." He was such an excellent preacher, that Bishop King said he was born an orator. He was so modest and diffident, that it is said he never ascended the pulpit without trembling, and once fainted away when he was to preach before the King. He died 25th June, 1644, and lies buried in the choir of Bristol cathedral with this inscription, which he composed himself before his death: — "Hic jacet Thomas Westfield, S. T. P. episcoporum infimus, peccatorum primus. obiit 25 Junii 1644 senio et ætate confectus: tu lector, quisquis es, vale et respice. Epitaphium ipse dictavit sibi vivus. Monumentum uxor mæstissima Elizabetha Westfield marito desideratissimo posuit superstes." — Arms, f. argent, cross fable. See Walker's Sufferings of the Clergy, part 2d. p. 3 to 5. Wood, vol. ii. p. 724.

13. Thomas Howell, S. T. P. nominated by the King Bishop July, 1644, and consecrated by Archbishop Usher, and enthronized 12th April, 1645, was barbarously treated by the rebels. His palace which was then covered with lead, under pretence of having bought the house, they uncovered and sold the lead; which exposed his wife, whom they knew to be then in childbed, to the rain and wind, which with the trouble and grief soon occasioned her death. After many base indignities, they dragged him violently out of the palace, of which they after made a malthouse. He struggling awhile for his property, caught hold of the staple of the door, not knowing where to shelter his poor motherless family of ten children, but they forced him out; and there they ground at a mill erected there as well as made their malt for several years, — and they had it in design to put up a furnace for brewing at the east end of the choir in the place of the altar. The inhuman  
usage





usage he received at their hands was such that he could not bear it, but did not long survive their cruelty, and died in less than a fortnight after being thus robbed and pillaged and maltreated. He was esteemed an excellent preacher, and of a mild and meek disposition, a feeling and tender heart, which they broke by this treatment. He died 1646, and was buried in his cathedral at the entrance of the choir out of the south aisle, under a plain stone without any other inscription but this one word, " Expergiscar." He found few well affected in his diocese at his coming thither, yet he left few ill affected in it at his death. He left many poor children behind him; but it is said, he was so well loved at Bristol, that after his decease the city took upon them the care of his children's education, in grateful sense of the memory of this their most worthy father. See Wood's *Athenæ Oxon.* vol. ii. p. 656. Arms, G. a falcon, wings expanded, argent.

14. Gilbert Ironside, S. T. P. was born at Hawkbury near Sodbury, in the county of Gloucester, was fellow of Trinity College, Oxon, 1613, rector of Winterborn Steepleton in Dorsetshire, and Yeovilton in Somersetshire, both of which he kept till the Restoration; had a prebend in the church of York, and December 1, 1660, was elected to the see of Bristol, after it had been vacant fourteen years. He was looked upon as the fittest person, being wealthy, to enter upon this mean and reduced bishoprick after such long vacancy. He died here 19th September, 1671, aged 83, and was buried close to the steps of the bishop's seat without monument or inscription. Arms, quarterly azure and G. a cross fleury or.

15. Guy Charlton, S. T. P. was a Cumberland man, educated at Queen's College, Oxford, was proctor 1635, vicar of Bucklebury, Berks, and rector of Havant. He took the side of the Royalists in the rebellion, and suffered accordingly with the rest. After the Restoration he was created Doctor of Divinity, and a chaplain to the King, and dean of Carlisle: and 1660, prebendary of Durham. And the 20th December, 1671, was elected to the see of Bristol, confirmed the 20th January, and consecrated in Henry the seventh's chapel the 11th February following, keeping his prebend in commendam. On the 8th January, 1678, he was translated to the see of Chichester. He died at Westminster, 6th July, 1685, and was buried at Chichester. Arms, or, a lion rampant, G. Motto: " Sans varier."

16. William Goulson, or Gulston, S. T. P. was of Leicestershire, educated at St. John's College, Cambridge, and was chaplain to the Dutchess of Somerset, who presented him to Symondsbury, Dorset. He was chosen Bishop of Bristol 16th January, and consecrated at Lambeth 9th of February,



1678. He died at Symondsbury 4th April, 1684, and was buried there in the chancel. After his death the Rev. Thomas Long, prebendary of Exeter, was offered this bishoprick, but he scrupling it at first was denied it afterwards. The arms of Goullston are argent over three bars nebule gules, a bend fable, charged with as many plates. See Wood, vol. ii. p. 684.

17. John Lake, S. T. P. was of Halifax, Yorkshire, and of St. John's College, Cambridge, bishop of the Isle of Man, was translated to Bristol 12th August, 1684, and the next year was hence translated to Chichester. He was one of the seven bishops committed to the Tower for a seditious libel against King James 2d. or rather for subscribing a petition to his Majesty, wherein he and the rest shewed their great averfeness to the distributing and publishing in all their churches the King's late declaration for liberty of conscience, &c. After King William came to the crown he refused taking the oaths of allegiance and supremacy to him, and was therefore deprived of his bishoprick. On his death bed the latter end of August, 1689, he publicly declared against them. Arms, A. on a saltire engrailed f. nine annulets or.

18. Jonathan Trelawney, S. T. P. was of Christ Church, Oxon, rector of St. Ives and Southill, county of Cornwall, was consecrated bishop 8th November, 1685, and in April, 1689, he was translated to Exeter, and 1707 thence to Winchester. He died 19th July, 1721, and was buried at Plint or Plenint in Cornwall, the place of his birth, with his ancestors. Arms, argent a chevron fable, betwixt three laurel leaves flipt vert, with the arms of Ulster as a baronet. See Wood, vol. ii. p. 1183.

In Sir John Dalrymple's Memoirs of Great Britain, &c. vol. ii. p. 335. is the following letter from this Bishop of Bristol to William Prince of Orange then in the kingdom, 1688.

“ May it please your Highness,

“ I received the great honour of your Highness's letter, and beg leave to return you my most humble thanks for those kind opinions you have been pleased to conceive of me, which I shall endeavour still to preserve.

“ My Lord Shrewsbury (with whose conduct we are all extremely pleased) will give you a full account of what hath been done here, which if your Highness shall approve of, it will be great satisfaction to me, that I have borne some part in the work which your Highness has undertaken with the hazard of your life, for the preservation of the Protestant religion, the laws, and the liberties of this kingdom.



" I desire Almighty God to preserve you as the means of continuing to us the exercise of our holy religion and our laws, and humbly beseech your Highness to believe me very ready to promote so good a work, and on all occasions to approve myself your Highness's

Most obedient, faithful, humble servant,

Bristol, Dec. 5, 1688.

J. BRISTOL."

19. Gilbert Ironside, son of a former bishop of the same name, was consecrated to this see 13th October, 1689, and July 29, 1691, was translated to Hereford. He died 27th August, 1701, aged 69, and was buried in St. Mary Somerset church, London.

20. John Hall, was master of Pembroke College, Oxon, and rector of Aldgate, and was consecrated here 30th August, 1691. He died February 4, 1709-10, at his college, aged 77, and was buried at Bromsgrove, in the county of Worcester, the place of his birth. Arms, A. on a chevron engrailed, inter three lions heads erased, sable, an estoile or.

21. John Robinson, S. T. P. was of Cleasly, in Yorkshire, and bred at Oriel College, 7th August, 1710, was made dean of Windfor and prebendary of Canterbury, and consecrated bishop 19th November, 1710, Lord Privy Seal, and one of her Majesty's honourable privy council and first plenipotentiary at the congress at Utrecht, 1712. He was 13th March, 1713, translated to London, and dying 11th April, 1723, aged 72, was buried in Fulham churchyard. Arms, vert on a chevron f. between three bucks passant or. as many estoiles of the last. See his arms in the west window of Bristol cathedral in coloured glass, also a runic inscription. See Gent. Mag. for August, 1780, p. 373.

22. George Smalridge, S. T. P. was of Litchfield, and student of Christ Church, Oxford, from Westminster school, was prebendary of Litchfield, minister of St. Dunstan's in the West, which he quitted June, 1711, and afterwards was canon of Christ Church, and 1713 dean, and was consecrated bishop 4th April, 1714, and was soon after made Lord Almoner to Queen Ann. Whilst he was bishop here he repaired many of the rooms in the palace at his own cost. He died at his deanry 27th September, 1719, and was buried at Christ Church, Oxon. Arms, f. a cross engrailed or. between four bustards respecting each other argent.

23. Hugh Boulter, S. T. P. was of Magdalen College, Oxon, M. A. 12th May 1693, B. A. 28th March, 1705, D. D. 1st July, 1708, consecrated bishop here 15th November, 1719, being before archdeacon of Surry, rector St. Olave's and dean of Christ Church, and one of George 1st's chaplains, who attended



attended him abroad. On the 3d November, 1724, he was translated to the archbishoprick of Armagh, and was made Lord Primate and Metropolitan of all Ireland in room of Dr. Lindley, deceased. His arms are, or. on a chevron G. three men's skulls of the field.

24. William Bradshaw, was born at Abergavenny in Monmouthshire, and bred at Baliol College, Oxon; took his degree of M. A. at Cambridge, was afterwards D. D. and dean of Christ Church, Oxon, 23d August, 1724, and was elected bishop here 21st September, 1724. He was prebendary of Canterbury and Oxon, and rector of Fawleigh in Hampshire. He died at Bath and was buried in Bristol cathedral 16th December, 1732, aged 62. Arms, argent, two bends fable.

25. Charles Cecil, S. T. P. of Christ Church, Oxon, D. D. and one of his Majesty's chaplains in ordinary, rector of Hatfield in Hertfordshire, a descendant of the Cecils Earl of Salisbury. He was elected Bishop of Bristol 15th January, 1732-3. In the year 1734 he was translated to the bishoprick of Bangor, and died in 1737. Arms, barry of ten, argent and azure, over all six escutcheons fable, 3, 2, 1, each charged with a lion rampant argent.

26. Thomas Secker, L. L. D. of Exeter College, Oxon, M. A. 4th Feb. 1723, for which he was grand compounder. July 9, 1733, he was presented to a prebend of Durham and the rectory of St. James, Westminster, and then to the bishoprick of Bristol the 2d January, 1734-5, and consecrated the 19th. In 1737 he was translated to the see of Oxford, and thence to London, and afterwards to the archbishoprick of Canterbury. Arms, gules, a bend engrailed or. between two bulls head. or.

27. Thomas Gooch, D. D. was master of Gonville and Caius college, Cambridge, and elected bishop here 28th May, 1737, and the year following was translated to Norwich, and thence to Ely, and died at Ely house, Holborn, 14th February, 1754, and was buried the 21st in the chapel of Gonville and Caius college, where a monument with an elegant inscription is erected to his memory. Arms, azure, three boars passant argent.

28. Joseph Butler, L. L. D. of Oriel college, took his degree of Bachelor of the Civil Law 10th June, 1721. He was elected bishop here 6th November, 1738, and consecrated 3d December. He held also the deanery of St. Paul's, London, with this see, and was confirmed therein in 1740. He was clerk of the closet, 1736, to Queen Caroline, and after her decease clerk of the closet to the King. In August, 1738, he was made prebendary of Rochester and had the valuable rectory of Stanhope in the bishoprick of Durham, which he resigned on being made dean of St. Paul's. In August, 1750, he was





was translated to Durham. In the year 1741 he rebuilt the bishop's palace at Bristol then going to decay, which cost him 5000*l.* where he usually resided five months in the summer. Living a single life and having no relations dependent on him, he laid out all his income, and generously expended more, during the twelve years he was Bishop of Bristol, than he received from the whole fee. In the year 1750 he proposed to the corporation the separation of the out-parish of St. Philip and Jacob, and building of a new church in Kingf-wood for the better instruction of the colliers and poor inhabitants there in the Christian religion. In 1750 an act of Parliament was obtained for that purpose, and his lordship opened the subscription with 400*l.* and procured 400*l.* more out of Queen Ann's bounty, the corporation subscribed 100*l.* &c. It is the more generous act, as he was soon to leave his palace here and quit the diocese, being about this very time to be translated to Durham, which took place the same year 1750, where he employed 130 workmen to repair that palace also, and became an annual subscriber of 400*l.* to the county hospital there. He died Tuesday 16th June, 1752, at Bath, in the 63d year of his age, and was buried in a deep brick grave, in which Gilbert Ironside in 1671 was interred, at the foot of the bishop's seat in Bristol cathedral, Bishop Howell lying on the right, and Bishop Bradshaw on the left side, with the following inscription on his stone :

## H. S.

*Reverendus admodum in Christo Pater*

*Josephus Butler, L. L. D.*

*Hujusce primò diœceseos,*

*Deinde Dunelmensis, Episcopus,*

*Qualis quantusq; vir erat,*

*Sua libentissime agnovit ætas :*

*Et, siquid præfuli aut scriptori ad famam valent*

*Mens altissima, ingenii perspicacis et subacti vis,*

*Animusq; pius, simplex, candidus, liberalis;*

*Mortui haud facile evanescet memoria.*

*Obiit Bathoniis*

*16 kal. Jul. A. D. MDCCLII.*

*Annos natus LX.*

His arms are, argent, between two bendlets engrailed, three covered cups sable.



29. John Conybeare, S. T. P. born in Devonshire, was educated at Tiverton school, afterwards fellow of Exeter college, Oxon, where he took his degrees of A. M. and D. D. was esteemed learned, and cultivated a fine genius by studious application; an eminent orthodox divine and powerful preacher. In 1742 he was made Dean of Christ Church, and 1750, 27th Nov. Bishop of Bristol, and 1751, 9th August, came hither being his first visitation. He died 13th July, 1755, and was buried here. After his death four volumes in octavo of his sermons were published, to which most of the nobility, clergy and gentry subscribed.

30. John Hume, D. D. of Christ Church college, Oxford, rector of Barnes in Surry, and bishop here 23d July, 1756, and in 1758 he was translated to Oxford, and in 1774 to Salisbury, where he continued to his death.

31. Philip Young succeeded bishop here 4th August, 1758; had been master of Jesus college, Cambridge, and canon residentiary of St. Paul's, and was translated to Norwich in 1761.

32. Thomas Newton, was born 1st December, 1703, O. S. son of John Newton, a considerable brandy and cider merchant, by a daughter of Rev. Mr. Rhodes, who was consumptive and died of that disorder, when her son was but a year old, from whom he seemed to have inherited a tender constitution. He was educated in the free school of Litchfield, under the direction of Mr. Hunter, famous for having produced several persons of note and eminence. He was sent at fourteen years of age to Westminster school, by the advice of Dr. Trebeck, whose daughter his father had married for a second wife. The school at that time was never in higher estimation, having five hundred scholars, under the auspices of Dr. Friend and Dr. Nicholls. In 1719 he lost his friend and patron, Bishop Smalridge. He continued six years at Westminster school, in the last was captain. In 1723 he was elected to Cambridge through Dr. Bentley, where he resided eight months every year, till he had taken his Bachelor of Arts degree, when he was chosen fellow, after which he went to settle in London, and prepared himself according to his inclination from a child for holy orders, and composed about twenty sermons, which he wrote in a large legible character, that he might never have occasion to copy them. In all his compositions at school, at the university, and every where, always his method was to finish the whole before he wrote down any part of it; and to some of his friends he repeated several of his sermons word for word before he committed a title to writing, so that he saved abundance of paper, without blotting or interlining, and could easily have preached without notes if he pleased. His title for orders was his fellowship, and he was ordained  
 deacon



deacon 21st December, 1729, when twenty-six years old; and priest in February following by that great and worthy prelate Bishop Gibson. He became curate at St. George's church, Hanover-square, and continued for several years assistant preacher to Dr. Trebeck, whose ill health disabled him from performing his duty. His first preferment was that of reader and afternoon preacher at Grosvenor chapel in South Audley-street, and by this means became tutor to Lord Carpenter's son, being taken into that family, where he lived several years much at his ease, and in great intimacy and friendship of Lord and Lady Carpenter; and living at no kind of expence, he was tempted to gratify his taste in the purchase of books and paintings and prints, and made the beginning of a collection, which was continually receiving considerable additions and improvements.

Here he stuck for some time without any promotion, sometimes preached the turns of some of the prebendaries of Westminster Dr. Friend and Dr. Nichol, and was in the friendship of Bishop Chandler and the Bishop of Durham; the latter, though he continued bishop twenty years, yet he bestowed no preferment on this young man (Newton), of whose company he was ever so very desirous that when he stayed away any time from his house in visiting him, he sent for him and kindly reproved him. In 1738 he became acquainted with Dr. Pearce, afterwards Bishop of Rochester, who freely and in a most handsome manner offered to appoint him morning preacher at the chapel in Spring Garden, where was a very full and polite congregation, consisting principally of noble families from Whitehall and of those of the Lords of the Admiralty, and other good families in that neighbourhood. This piece of preferment was the beginning of a valuable connection with a very learned and a very good man Bishop Pearce. He was afterwards with Dr. Pearce frequently at dinner at Lord Bath's, who proved a most sincere, worthy, and valuable friend to him; and by means of Mrs. Ann Deane Devonish, intimate with the Prince and Princess of Wales, he became noticed by their Royal Highnesses, and introduced to the acquaintance of the Earl of Bath, two of the most fortunate circumstances of his life. He was now appointed first chaplain to the Earl of Bath, by whose interest in the spring 1744 he was preferred to the rectory of St. Mary le Bow in Cheap-side, so that he was forty years old before he obtained any living. He now quitted the chapel in Spring Garden, his fellowship became vacant, and in 1745 he took the degree of Doctor in Divinity. During the Rebellion he published two sermons on the occasion, and one preached the 18th of December before the House of Commons. In the spring of 1747 Dr. Newton was chosen lecturer of St. George's, Hanover-



square, in the room of Dr. Savage, deceased; and in the month of August following he married his first wife Jane, eldest daughter of Rev. Dr. Trebeck, an unaffected, modest, decent, young woman, with whom he lived seven years very happy in mutual love and harmony. As they had no children they continued to board in the parsonage house with Dr. Trebeck, free from the trouble of house-keeping. In 1719 was published Dr. Newton's quarto edition of Milton's *Paradise Lost*, which has gone through eight editions, a sign of its being well received. The Prince and Princess of Wales did him the honour of being two of his subscribers. He next published the *Paradise Regain'd* and other poems of Milton. In 1751 Dr. Newton preached a funeral sermon on the death of the Prince of Wales at St. George's, which excited the notice of the Princess, who made him one of her chaplains, and was particularly gracious to him ever after. In 1754 he lost his father and wife. It was happy his mind was now much engaged in writing the *Dissertations on the the Prophecies*, for plunging deep into study was a great relief to him in this affliction. This work was well received and translated into French and German in 1761. In 1757 he at length after many promises and disappointments by the Duke of Newcastle, procured a prebend of Westminster, in the room of Dr. Green, deceased, and was made sub-almoner to Gilbert, Archbishop of York, who gave him also the precentorship of that church, which he held till he succeeded Dr. Young in the bishoprick of Bristol and residentiaryship of St. Paul's. He was consecrated bishop at Christmas, 1761, the King having of his own motion made him bishop, so that he was not indebted to any minister for his promotion. Though in the year 1764 he was offered the primacy of Ireland, yet being then past sixty, and having no family to provide for, and preferring a quiet competency to pomp and greatness, he continued Bishop of Bristol and Dean of St. Paul's to his death. He usually resided at Bristol all the summer season, attending his cathedral church as often as his health very tender and precarious would permit, lamenting the too frequent absence of the dean and non-residence of the prebendaries, and even remonstrating against it. Having frequent returns of spitting of blood and never without a cough, he at last expired without a groan, sinking down in his chair as he attempted to take out his watch to see what it was o'clock, on February 15, 1782, and was buried Thursday 28th in the vaults under the south aisle at St. Paul's.

33. Lewis Bagot, a very learned and pious man, was made Dean of Christ Church, Oxford, 21st January, 1773, where he preserved good discipline, and was promoted to this bishoprick, and translated to Norwich the next year.





He has published a volume of very ingenious discourses, in which he has confuted the specious opinions of Deism and Infidelity by the most convincing arguments.

33. Christopher Wilson succeeded, being one of the prebendaries of St. Paul's, London, and is the present Bishop, 1788.

#### DEANS of BRISTOL, with the time of their installation.

William Snow, last prior of Bradenstock, 4th June, -	1542	William Levett, 10th January,	1685
William Whiteheare, 26th July,	1551	George Royse, 10th March,	1693
George Carew, 5th November,	1552	Hon. Robert Booth, 20th June,	1708
Henry Jolliffe, 9th September,	1554	Samuel Crefwick, 8th Sept.	1730
John Sprint, 16th February,	1570	Tho. Chamberlayne, 24th Dec.	1739
Anthony Watfon, 21st July,	1590	William Warburton,* 25th Oct.	1757
Simon Robson, 21st April,	1598	Samuel Squire,† 21st June,	1760
Edward Chetwyn, 26th July,	1617	Francis Ayscough, 5th June,	1761
Matthew Nicholas, 22d June,	1639	Cutts Barton, - - -	1768
Henry Glenham, 14th Sept.	1660	John Hallam, 22d February,	1781
Richard Towgood, 1st May,	1667		
Samuel Croffman, 4th February,	1683		
Richard Thomson, 25th May,	1684		

#### The ARCHDEACONS of DORSET.

The endowment of this archdeaconry in the church of Bristol is the impropriation and advowson of Gussage All Saints in Dorsetshire. The valuation of it for the first fruits was 82 l. 12 s. 8 d. in the year 1531.

T T 2

Thomas

\* He was a learned man and great writer and polemical divine. His Julian is esteemed much, and his Divine Legation of Moses is replete with learning, but contains some paradoxical notions. He was presented to the bishoprick of Gloucester, in which he continued to his death.

† He wrote some tracts on religion, and was made Bishop of St. David.



Thomas Cranmer, 10th Dec.	1542	Robert Cooper, 5th March,	1697
John Cottrell, 4th April,	1551	Edward Hammond, 10th May,	1733
Toby Matthews succeeded, afterwards Archbishop of York, a native of Bristol.		John Walker, 21st May, -	1740
		Died at 82, 8th November,	
		1780, after being forty years	
Henry Tuckner, - -	1574	archdeacon	
Edward Wickham, - -	1607	George Hand, 18th November,	1780
Richard Fitzherbert, 27th Aug.	1621		
Richard Meredith, 25th July,	1660		
Ralph Ironside, - -	1668		
John Fielding, 25th March,	1683		

PREBENDARIES of BRISTOL, and the time of their being presented.

It has been usual, in giving the succession of the prebendaries, to rank them in order according to the stall they filled when living, placing the successor in the stall of the deceased, which for the sake of method shall be followed here, and it really is the case at St. Paul's and most other cathedral or collegiate churches; but in Bristol the successor takes the lowest stall, and there is a general remove, though it is uncertain when that method was adopted. But as there are no particular estates or livings annexed to each stall here, and the whole chapter income is thrown together and divided, it is a matter of little consequence, but for the sake of order and the customary method.

FIRST STALL.

John Gough, 4th June,	-	1542	Richard Thompson, - -	1684
John Barlow, - -	-	1545	Walter Hart, 13th September,	1685
John Rixman, - -	-	1554	Deprived 1690, for not taking the oaths to King William and Queen Mary	
William Dalby, - -	-	1558		
Arthur Sawle, - -	-	1559		
Richard Hackluyt, - -	-	1585	Nathaniel Lies, - -	1691
Christopher Green, - -	-	1616	John Sutton, 22d July, -	1723
Richard Towgood, - -	-	1660	Walter Chapman, 15th Feb.	1740
Samuel Croffman, - -	-	1667		

SECOND STALL.

Roger Edgeworth, 4th June,	1512	Robert Gullyford, rector of	
Christopher Pacy, - -	1560	Wraxal, Somerset, 16th Sept.	1596
Thomas Thackam, 11th Sept.	1590	Thomas Bisse, 19th February,	1612
William Buckle, 12th Sept.	1592	Thomas Tucker, 23d Nov.	1632
		Richard	



Richard Standfast, 25th August, 1660	James Harcourt, 24th Nov. 1711
John Rainfrop, 30th Sept. 1684	Henry Waterland, 16th April, 1739
Thomas Cary, 20th May, 1693	

## THIRD STALL.

Henry Morgan, 4th June, - 1542	William Yeamans, 26th Dec. 1622
Richard Huys, - - - 1554	John Weeks, 3d March, - 1633
John Bridgewater, - - 1563	Thomas Horne, - - 1669
Clement Forthe, - - 1576	Richard Smith, 30th April, 1697
Robert Temple, - - - 1584	Joseph Casberd, 2d June, - 1717
Samuel Davies, 12th Sept. - 1661	G. Henry Rooke, 23d Nov. 1751

## FOURTH STALL.

Roger Hughes, 4th June, - 1542	George Cuthbert, 20th Oct. 1629
John Cottrel, 31st December, 1572	William Kempe, 23d Oct. - 1660
Thomas Withered, - - 1573	Samuel Wood, 29th June, - 1664
John Saunders, - - 1577	John Chetwynd, 29th June, 1668
John Dixe, 24th May, - 1596	Charles Livesay, 10th March, 1693
John Wilkinfon, 19th Feb. 1613	John Castleman, 22d May, 1739

## FIFTH STALL.

Richard Broom, 4th June, - 1542	John Dashfield, 16th July, - 1660
John Williams, 4th March, 1543	Theophilus St. Quintin, 9th Nov. 1665
Thomas Sylke, 4th June, - 1546	Stephen Crespion, 3d August, 1683
Francis Willis, - - - 1576	Hugh Waterman, 11th Dec. 1711
Charles Langford, - - 1586	Richard Monins, 30th July, 1746
William Hill, 26th February, 1606	John Aylmer, 15th September, 1750
Robert Marks, 13th Sept. - 1619	

## SIXTH STALL.

George Dogeon, 4th June, - 1542	John Baron, 24th November, 1713
Thomas Bayley, 23d January, 1552	Henry Head, 2d March, - 1721
Edward Green, - - - 1583	John King, 12th June, - 1728
William Norris, 12th Nov. - 1627	John Billingsly, 20th Sept. 1738
George Williamfon, 7th Aug. 1643	Nathaniel Forster,* 1st Feb. 1754
Richard Towgood, 30th July, 1685	

The

\* He published a neat and correct edition of the Hebrew Bible in 4to. in elegant types, not deformed with points, an invention of the Rabbies, and was skilled in Hebrew learning, so necessary to a divine.



The Franco Lines that regularly succeeded after the Rev. Dr. Fortier were,

Horace Hammond, 15th June, 1754	Thomas Powis, 30th March, 1779
Josiah Tucker,* 10th October, 1756	
Bertie Henley, 7th January, 1758	
John Cocks, 28th August, - 1758	
James Welton, 21st July, - 1760	
Charles Tarrant, 9th February, 1761	
Edward Dicey, 28th January, 1773	
William Speke, 6th February, 1776	

#### CHANCELLORS of BRISTOL DIOCESE.

John Cotterel, 4th June, - 1542	Henry Jones, 16th November, 1669
William Dalby, - - 1556	Charles Sloper, 4th June, - 1695
John Sprint, - - - 1572	Carew Reynell, 13th Sept. - 1727
William Jones, - - - 1574	William Cary, 28th Jan. 1744-5
Felix Lewis, - - - 1580	James Backhouse, - - 1759
William Clark, 9th March, 1584	
Francis James, 31st July, - 1590	
Sir James Hufley, - - - 1603	
Gilbert Jones, 26th August, 1625	

\* Afterwards Dean of Gloucester, distinguished for his various ingenious writings on trade, politics, &c.





## C H A P. X.

*Of the COLLEGIATE CHURCH and HOSPITAL of the VIRGIN MARY  
and St. MARK, called the GAUNTS of BILLESWYCK,  
now the MAYOR's CHAPEL.*

**T**HIS Church is sometimes called St. Mark's, being dedicated as above, not to St. Martin as Prynn has it; at other times the Gaunt's of Billefwyck from the original founder and the name of the manor in which it was built, and with part of which it was endowed. — This name of Billefwyck was probably given to it from the pleasantness of the site of it, (Bellus vicus.) It is not a very large or elegant structure, but by a generous vote of the corporation of this city, the patrons of this curacy, in 1722 it was repaired at the expence of the chamber and beautified, and it is now made a chapel for the mayor and corporation to attend divine service and hear a sermon every Sunday morning and on public days, for which the reader has 25l. per ann. and the preacher 20s. for every sermon. It was before this time by their permission made use of by the French refugees as a place of worship, who have erected their chapel since in Orchard-street.

It is observable that this chapel is not built as churches commonly are East and West, but rather nearer to the North and South, for which some assign this reason, that it was to point to the place of residence of the joint founders and their ancestors, Berkeley Castle; others that it should point towards the lands with which it was endowed.

The foundation is by some supposed to be begun by Robert de Berkeley, alias de Were, the second Lord of Berkeley, who married Alicia daughter and heiress of Robert de Gaunt Baron of Felkingham, and to be finished by his only son Maurice de Gaunt, who had assumed the surname of Gaunt from his mother's family. The exact year when built is a little uncertain, one manuscript has it in the year 27th of Henry the 3d. Maurice died \* the 14th of Henry the 3d. 1250. Robert de Gournay his heir and nephew is more justly supposed to be the founder by order or by the will of his uncle Maurice

de

\* Maurice's charter is extant in the church of Wells—See Rob. Adams, p. 277.



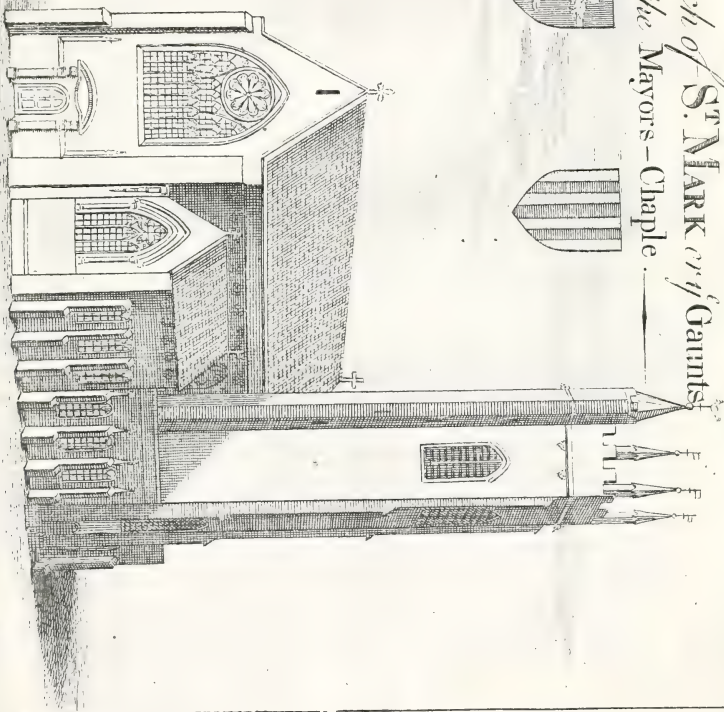
de Gaunt; and a charter belonging to St. Augustin's monastery dated 1251, seems to point it out that the year of its erection was immediately after the death of Maurice de Gaunt; 1230. William of Worcester says, "*Ecclesia religionum &c.*—The church of the religious called les Gauntes, the nave of it is 43 steps in length, 26 steps in breadth." p. 188. And in p. 247, "in the sanctuary of St. Augustin on the North part of the town of Bristol is the church of religion dedicated to St. Mark."

The church at present, which was formerly much larger, consists of a body and one side aisle; the length from the South door in the Green is about 123 feet, its breadth 24 feet and a half, the height from the floor to the roof, which is neatly wainscotted in the inside, is about 37 feet, the covering is of stone tiles: behind the altar is a lofty window of painted glass, which has been taken away and plain glass fixed in its room. It represented in the most beautiful colours Judas betraying our Saviour and delivering him to the soldiers, the scourging, the bearing of the cross, crucifixion, taking down from the cross and ascension from the tomb; the figures were large and in good drawing; above these in the upper part of the window still remain painted in glass the arms or badge of the house, viz. f. gules three geese argent; also the arms of Robert de Courney, a founder and benefactor, viz. f. or. three pales azure; and likewise those of the Berkeleys: over this window on the outside is a date run into the freestone with lead, 1823 (1423.) At the entrance of the South door behind the large window there is a gallery with this inscription, "This gallery was erected and the chapel beautified at the charge of the chamber of this city, John Becher, Esq; mayor, and Noblet Ruddock and John Rich, Esqrs. sheriffs, in the year 1722;" and in the year 1772 a neat organ was put there and the whole chapel again repaired and beautified.

At the East side this aisle is joined by another about 14 feet and a half broad, making the whole church next the Green to be 39 feet broad: here is a large freestone pillar which supports two arches, making the widest part of the church about 36 feet in length, and about 36 feet longer it is walled up, having a door for communication out of the greater into the lesser aisle, in all 72 feet long: 36 feet of which is a flat wainscot roof with several carved coats of arms, differing much from the other part of the aisle. In this aisle are several handsome monuments. The tower at the North end of this aisle is in height to the leads 86 feet, having 115 steps; the whole building is of freestone 16 feet by 17 square, with battlements 5 feet high from the leads with pinnacles at each corner; in the tower are six bells: the best idea of it may be formed from the copper-plate Under the tower at the East front is a small low door



*The Church of S.<sup>T</sup> MARK or Gaunts  
How the Mayors - Chaple*





to enter the church, and on the North side another by which you enter into a small room, formerly a confessional with two arches in the wall between this room and the high altar for the priest and penitent; there are eight curious niches round the room in which images were formerly fixed. The roof is vaulted with freestone, in the center of which are two curious shields with several coats of arms in freestone, viz. England and France, the Courneys, Points of Acton in the county of Gloucester, &c.

The floor is covered with square glazed bricks having many coats of arms on them, and under the floor is a large vault, the entrance of which in 1730 fell in, and upon examining the corps there deposited, supposed to be those of the founders of the church, there was found a gold bodkin entangled in some hair, but it was closed up again. This room is now used by the chaplains of the church to put on their surplices &c. On the West side of the great aisle is a large arch answering to that under the tower, and probably the church might originally extend further that way; on the same side were the cloisters belonging thereto, and also the old hospital of Billefwyck, scarce any remains of which are now extant; and the orchard belonging to it was ordered the 41st of Elizabeth the 19th of June, then holden by Mr. Beach, not to be let after to any person but to be reserved to Queen Elizabeth's Hospital; but in process of time it was built upon and converted into a street, now called Orchard-street.

In this small but neat church are many stately and superb monuments and some ancient statues in stone. The right of sepulture in the ground before this church was formerly disputed, and William Chew perpetual vicar of St. Augustin's the Less was accused in the year 1426 at a court held in the said church, and found guilty of withholding and receiving to his own use the oblations and customary dues and offerings for burying the dead that lived and died within the bounds of the hospital of St. Mark, usually enjoyed by the master and brethren there; particularly that in 1420 on Palm Sunday he carried away the bodies of William Leach and Christin the mother of John Hore, and Andrew Hutchins, from the cemetery of the said hospital or house of St. Mark, though they lived and died there, and seized and kept dues to the value of a 100 shillings; and that the said William heaping evil upon evil did also draw away and solicit Sybil Hutchings, who lived within the precincts of the said hospital, from purification after childbirth to be made by her of right in the said hospital, and kept the wax tapers and the garment called chryfinar, the offering to the said hospital and the other obventions on account of the said purification belonging to the religious brethren of St. Mark, and





unjustly refused giving any satisfaction ; which the said vicar Chew confessed, and was therefore condemned in ecclesiastical excommunication for his obduracy, but on his causing the bodies which he had rashly and injuriously buried in the churchyard of St. Augustin the Less out of their proper burial place to be carried back and interred with all customary forms observed in the said hospital of St. Mark ; and on his returning the taper and chrysmar and the 100 shillings, the master and brethren there acknowledged themselves satisfied, and at the petition of the said brethren and William the vicar, he was absolved from the sentence of excommunication given against him, “ cum Sancta ecclesia nulli claudat gremium.”

The right of sepulture formerly was no small thing to contend for, since many of the best families and the greatest barons in the land often by their will ordered their bodies to be buried in such a particular religious house, and it was very beneficial to the friers to enjoy such a privilege, since commonly some endowment for a chantry, some annual celebration of the obit was left them at the same time with lamps, masses, &c. for the souls of the persons there deposited, many instances of which will hereafter occur. To shew farther the disposition of those times ; I find also in the time of William Long being abbot, a dispute arose betwixt the monastery of St. Augustin and the house of St. Mark, concerning the site of the said house and works carried on there, and their instituting a college there, and concerning the possessions given by will of Maurice de Gaunt the founder for support of the poor, and some losses having been incurred, and concerning the right of sepulture there. It was at length thus settled : that the said house of St. Mark should be free from all exactions and claims of that of St. Augustin, and have all tithes and oblations that may arise within its bounds ; that it should have a free monastery at their own disposal and management, a free burying ground, ornaments, bells, &c. ; that the bodies of any dead might be received and buried, but that the plain of St. Augustin was the common burial ground belonging to St. Augustin's monastery, &c. &c. and to finish the matter at length Walter Bishop of Worcester to prevent any more contention and rancour between them ordered that neither of them should have common of pasture in the said plain, as they both agreed in its being the cemetery of St. Augustin ; but if any animals should enter the said plain or green for pasture, and the owner not remove them, being thrice warned by the vicar of St. Augustin the Less, or some other clerk of the said church, he might pound them till freed by discharge : the delinquents to pay half a mark as a mulct to the bishop ; that the bodies lately buried before the gate of the house of St.



Mark remain there, but that the earth rose above the level be removed and made plain, on account of the pleasantness of the place: nevertheless it should not be the less reckoned a cemetery by the removal of the earth. He ordained that on account of the pleasantness of the place the dead bodies should be buried in that part of the cemetery where they were used to be and no where else, unless the diocesan or his official should think, that use required it, and that those of the house of St. Mark might have free ingress, egress, in and out of the said plain, for the sake of going, walking, and wandering where they pleased, of driving carriages, drays, and carts through the roads useful and necessary for them, and accustomed. He ordered also that the abbot of St. Augustin might mow the said plain without hindrance of any one and strew the grass in his churches of St. Augustin the Greater and the Less, with this proviso that the abbot make no defence called *Mayinge* in hindrance of the granted privileges to the house of St. Mark; but the mower while there must not be hindred, reserving all accustomed privileges and rights to the monastery of St. Augustin and those that dwell there, except the right of pasture. This deed is dated 1251.

This right of sepulture being thus acknowledged here, the house of St. Mark reaped great advantages from it, and especially from the burials in their church, lands being frequently granted them by families buried there, they only finding a priest to pray for the souls of the departed. Few small churches have so many handsome monuments, many belonging to noble families, which I shall proceed to give some account of as they occur.

#### MONUMENTS in the church of St. MARK.

At the entrance on the 22d of August, 1680, was buried Captain William Bedlow, without any memorial or inscription, though he deserved to be chronicled for the particulars of his life. He is said to be concerned in the Rye-house plot in Charles 2d's time, and with Titus Oates pretended to discover the authors of the death of Sir Edmundbury Godfrey, 1678; and on the oaths of these two many were executed, who all denied the charge with their latest breath. Bedlow was buried near the great door next the green, and his funeral expences are said to be discharged by the chamber of the city, his goods having been seized and carried out of the house for the large debts he had contracted.

At the west end of the east aisle, next the College-green, is a lofty handsome monument with the following inscription thereon.



Near this place lie the remains of William Hilliard, Esq; who was born at Sea House in the parish of Ilminster, in the county of Somerset:

After having by his bright parts soon acquired the knowledge usually taught in school, he entered himself a gentleman commoner in Wadham college in Oxford, where he made himself master of the liberal sciences; then travelled over the greatest part of Europe, and returned to his native land a compleat gentleman, and master of the European languages; was put into the commission of the peace, for which he was well qualified. He married Mary the widow of William Blome, Esq; one of the daughters and coheiresses of Gabriel Goodman, Esq; who by her last will left 200l. to erect this monument to his memory. Among other charitable legacies he left 100l. to the poor of the parish of St. Augustin in this city.

The following was inscribed on a stone here to Dr. Patrick Keir:—  
*“ Morte tandem oppressus qui olim triumphos reportavit H. S. E. Patrick Keir, M. D. Vir egregiâ indole et modestâ, eâ morum suavitate ut quot usus est familiaribus tot sibi conciliavit amicos, eâ morum suavitate ut conciliatos usque asservaverit: rei medicæ eximie peritus, aliorum salutis curator sedulus, prodigum interim suæ; similis vitæ cultus modestus et luxuriæ animosus hostis, cautus in necessitudinibus amicitie incundis, in servandis fidus: si plura velis ætas præfens, quæ novit, enunciet, pereunte illâ huic marmori nepotes credant. Obiit 17 Decembris. Ætatis 37.”* He wrote a treatise on the Bristol waters.

In the same aisle are some neat monuments against the wall, and in the tables thereof are epitaphs inscribed:

To Henry Walter, Esq; sometime mayor and alderman, &c. who died 11 July 1742, aged 75.

Henrico Blaake de Pinnels Agro Wilton<sup>i</sup>. obiit 10 Julii 1731, ætat 72.

To John Cookin of Highfield, he died 12 March 1627, aged 11.—A neat statue of a boy kneeling on one knee, well executed.

Memoriæ æternæ Georgii Upton Armigeri viri optimi & ornatissimi qui cum 55 annos bene vixisset, placide obdormivit Jan<sup>ii</sup>. 25<sup>o</sup>. natali suo A. D<sup>i</sup>. 1608.

*Quæ lux prima tulit te, te abstulit, ergo superstes.*

*Cum nequeas vitæ vivere vive neci:*

*Integra vita fuit, pia mors, mens dedita Christo,*

*Hæc facient tumulo te superesse tuo.*

*Lugens posuit Edwardus Bisse.*



To the never dying memory of Margaret Throgmorton, late wife of Sir Baynam Throgmorton of Clovewal in the county of Gloucester, Bart. and youngest daughter of Robert Hopton of Whiteham in the county of Somerset, Esq; she died 18 Aug. 1635, aged 25, with 14 lines of poetry in her praise in English. Arms, G. or. a chevron argent, barry of six sable, crest on a wreath, a falcon volant proper.

To John Carr, an arched tomb in the wall with no statue on it or epitaph, but in the front some plain shields, and in a cypher J. C.

To Sir Henry de Gaunt, his statue at length on his back in an arch. He was the second master of the hospital of Gaunts about 1230.

Gulielmo Swift, publicæ scholæ hujus civitatis moderatori. Obiit pridie calend. Junii anno salutis 1623, ætat. 52.

To the virtuous Dorothy Popham, late wife of the Hon. Col. Al. Popham. She died March, 1643. Also Sir Francis Popham, Knight, who died 16 March, 1646. Arms, in a shield 32 coats quartered, the first is two bucks heads for Popham. This Dorothy was daughter of — Cole, Esq; of Nailsea, Somerset. Alexander son and heir of Alexander and Dorothy is buried here, May, 1642.

At the upper end of this east aisle on a raised tomb lie the statues of two Knights armed in mail save their faces, their right hands on their sword hilts, on the left their shield, with their legs across, which shews them to be knights of the holy war or crusade, which ended with Henry 3d's. reign, 1268. None of these cross-legged monuments are of later date than Edward 2d. or beginning of Edward 3d. nor earlier than King Stephen. It is uncertain whom they represent, probably the Berkeleys or Gournays.

In the west aisle next the pulpit is a curious monument with the statue of a lady kneeling, and on each side two men in clergymen's habits drawing aside a curtain, with the following inscription underneath : — “ *Memoriæ sacrum hic sita sunt ossa ornatissimæ feminae, Dominae Mariæ Dom. Edwardi Baynton, nuper de Bromham in comitatu Wiltoniæ reliquæ, femina fuit ad antiquum morem composita, illibata vitæ, pietate, forma et omni laude maternali virtute muliebris ornata suam post quam vitam nimis eheu brevem nec a molestiis penitus liberam, piam, fidam, pudicam, castam, generosam hospitalitate caritate, aliisque quam plurimis virtutibus excultam omnibus, etiam egenis, eam egisset; eam cum ingenti omnium utriusque sexûs, quibus aut fama, aut facie nota fuit, luctu ac dolore reliquit, pro feliciore commutavit, et Christo placide obdormivit ætatis suæ 44, Anno Domini MDC secundo. Sordes terra tenet, tenet ingens spiritus æthrâ æthereosque locos, hic restant ossa sepulta.*





Huic ejus filii gemini dom. Robertus et dom. Nicolaus, quos suo utero conjugali peperit fructifero posuere monumentum. Arms f. a bend lozengè argent.

In the same aisle is an handsome monument with a shield of the arms of Berkeley of Stoke-Gifford at top, and in the table the following epitaph, over a statue in armour at full length — “ Domini Richardi Berklari militis in suam mortem carmen monitorium :

Cum genus et nomen cupiant cognoscere cuncti,  
Mentem nemo : si quis, qui sum, inquirere pergat,  
Nescio, responde, hunc verum se nosse moneto.

Whom youth could not corrupt, nor change of days  
Add any thing but years : he full of them  
As they of knowledge ; what need this stone praise  
Whose epitaph is writ in th' hearts of men :  
That did this world and her child fame despise,  
His soul with God, lo here his coffin lies.

Obiit Aprilis 26, A. D. 1604. Ætatis suæ 71.”

In the chancel is a large finely ornamented and carved tomb and on it within an arch the stone figures of Sir Thomas de Berkeley and Catherine his lady, daughter of John Lord Bottetourte. Sir Thomas died 35th Edward 3d. 1361. There are two shields over them ; one has the Berkeley arms of Stoke quartered with Bottetourte, which are or. a cross engrailed sable ; the other shield is paly of six or. and azure for Gourney.

Next this is another arched tomb for Miles Salley, abbot of Einslham, afterwards Bishop of Llandaff : he died in 1516. His stone figure with mitre and crozier is on the tomb.

Against the wall above is the following on a monument : — “ Here lieth the body of Elizabeth James, late wife of Francis James, Doctor of the Civil Law ; a woman for her excellent virtues and singular wisdom to be equalled by few of her sex. As she lived very religiously and godly, so she died May 1, 1599. Charissimæ conjugii posuit superstes maritus.” Dr. James lies buried at Barrow-Minchin church, in the county of Somerset. Vide Wood’s *Athenæ Oxon.* vol. i. p. 759.

Under this is a very grand carved freestone Gothic arched tomb and monument with the figure of a man in an alderman’s gown, with a son behind him, with the following epitaph on a table : — “ Thomas Aldworth obiit Februarii 25, anno 1598.



Bristolæ quondam qui mercatoris in urbe  
 Munere functus eras, his quoque prætor eras,  
 Hæc cineris Aldworthi tuos tenet urna, sed omnis  
 Virtutis meritis ætlior urna tuis, &c."

Under the stone figures is the following inscription: — " Ille jacet Johannes Aldworth, civis, mercator, hujus civitatis vicecomes hujusque orphanotrophii quondam thesaurarius qui obiit 18 Decembris, 1615, ætatis suæ 51, et Franciscus filius ejus optimæ spei juvenis qui 5 Septem. 1623 obiit, ætatis suæ 24. Terram cum cælo commutavit, placidè in Domino requiens.

En pater et natus tumulo conduntur eodem  
 Ille rei multæ, sic fuit ille spei:  
 Ille probus prudens, pietatis cultor et æqui,  
 Qui norit lector, crederet, iste foret.  
 Ille viæ medium cum vicerit, iste sed oram,  
 Cum Christo regnant suaviter in patriâ."

Above is a stone with an epitaph to Catherine, the wife of Hopkins Vaughan, of Caldicot, who died 6th May, 1694. Also to George Vaughan, Esq; his son: he died 16th Sept. 1701, aged 38.

Another monument is here to Thomas James, mayor, and parliament man for this city, &c.: he died 1615. Also Thomas James, Barrister at Law, his grandson: died in 1685. Also Alexander James, of Tydenham: he died 1713.

In the chancel is a very superb monument for William Birde thus: —  
 " Gulielmus Birde obiit Octobris 8, A. D. 1590.

Clarus, prædives, sapiens et pro grege Christi  
 Sollicitus, sedem et victum cultumque ministrans  
 Dormit in hoc tumulo, sed spiritus æthera scandit:  
 Vix dedit hisce virum Bristolliæ nostra diebus  
 Consimilem, seu virtutem, seu cætera species.  
 Gratus erat patriæ civis, jucundus amicis  
 Progeniemque suam multâ cum laude reliquit."

The sword of magistracy lies on his tomb.

On a stone here is the following: — " Here lieth the body of Robert Gorges, who departed this transitory life March 1, 1619. Also Sir Robert Gorges, Knight, and Elena his wife, who died 5th November, 1617." This is of the family of Gorges of Wraxal near Bristol, where they had a seat and park. They bore anciently for arms, a whirlpool, in allusion to the name, afterwards

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